



**EQUESTRIAN BAHAMAS  
RULE BOOK:**

**HUNTERS, JUMPERS  
AND  
HUNT SEAT EQUITATION**

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## **Part I: General Rules**

### **G1. INTRODUCTION**

In all competitions, rules are essential if the sport is to be well ordered and is to pay due regard to equity, safety and the welfare of the horse, rider and driver.

All participants, organizers, officials, spectators and support personnel involved in Equestrian Bahamas events are guided and governed by the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse. Breach of the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse will result in disciplinary action according to the Rules and Regulations of the FEI.

All participants, organizers, officials, spectators and support personnel involved in Equestrian Bahamas events are guided and governed by the Equestrian Bahamas Code of Conduct. Persons found to be in breach of the EB Code of Conduct are subject to disciplinary actions as per the Statutes of the Equestrian Bahamas Federation Charter.

Knowledge of the rules of equestrian sport is expected of each participant in Equestrian Bahamas competitions and event. No competitor, exhibitor, official or spectator at a Recognized Show is exempt from this responsibility.

In the event that a situation arises which is not covered by a specific rule, the most applicable regulations should be interpreted to uphold the principles of Clean Sport and Fairness in the Field of Play.

### **G2. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- a) The term 'Federation' when used herein refers to Equestrian Bahamas (hereinafter referred to as "EB").
- b) The term "Rated Show" refers to all Shows held under the auspices of EB.
- c) All show events will be conducted according to the Rules as laid out in the Equestrian Bahamas Rule Book. Any new rules issued by the Federation shall take precedence.
- d) In these Rules reference to 'he' includes 'she', and reference to 'horse' includes 'pony', unless otherwise stated.

### **G3. SHOW OFFICIALS**

#### **a) Show Officials**

- i) The term 'Show Official' shall include and refer to the following persons.
  - Show Director
  - Show Secretary
  - Stewards
  - Timekeepers
  - Veterinarians
  - Judges

ii) The term 'Show Committee' shall refer to the entity comprised of Show Officials, and responsible for the operation of the Horse Show.

**b) Show Director**

- i) The Show Director is responsible for the coordination of the show.
- ii) A Rated Show should exercise extreme care in the selection and appointment of the Show Director for the mutual benefit of committees, exhibitors, competitors and spectators. A thorough knowledge of the rules of the Federation shall be one of the prerequisites of a person serving as Show Director.
- iii) Any Show Director who violates or knowingly permits violation of the rules of the Federation at his show shall be subject to disciplinary action.
- iv) A Show Director may not serve as a Judge or Steward of his own show nor may he be a rider or driver.

**c) Show Secretary**

- i) The Secretary of each Rated Show shall have a copy of the current EB Rule Book available for reference at all times during the Show as well as a current list of Registered Horses and Membership List.
- ii) The Secretary shall provide a number for each horse-rider combination, which shall be worn in a conspicuous place at all times, as instructed by the Show Committee.
- iii) The Secretary shall be responsible for all matters in connection with entries.
- iv) It shall be the duty of the Secretary to ensure that no entrant shall compete until or unless said exhibitor or his representative has signed an entry form.
- v) At the earliest possible moment the Secretary shall notify interested exhibitors if a class is not fully subscribed and is cancelled.
- vi) The Secretary shall be responsible for providing a standard judges card carrying the exact specifications of the class, which is to be handed to each officiating judge at the beginning of each class. The Judge is to mark and sign his card at the conclusion of the class and surrender it at once to the Ring Steward for return to the Show Secretary. The Secretary must be sure to record the names as well as the numbers of the Horses shown.
- vii) Either the Show Secretary or Show Director, shall be responsible for accurately recording the results of all EB- designated classes and forwarding same, together with a copy of the Show Schedule and Judges Cards, to the Point Scoring Secretary within one week of the last day of the Show. The recording of said results MUST include the EB Horse Registration Number and the EB Membership Number of the competitor.

**d) Stewards**

- i) At each Rated Show there shall be a Chief Steward and a Ring(s) Steward.
- ii) When manpower allows for only one Steward, the Chief Steward shall assume the duties of the Ring Steward in addition to those of his position.

- iii) The following persons at a given show are ineligible to serve as Stewards:
  - a. The Show Director
  - b. The Show Secretary
  - c. The Judge (except as in (v))
- iv) Where possible no Steward may officiate in any class in which any of his horses are being shown or any member of his immediate family or pupil is taking part.
- v) A Judge may serve as Ring Steward if his duties as Judge are completed.
- vi) Failure of a steward to attend the show for which he is scheduled to serve, or to perform his duties in accordance with the rules shall constitute cause for disciplinary action.

e) **Duties of a Chief Steward**

- i. The Chief Steward is the approved representative of EB. It is the responsibility of the Chief Steward to ensure that all riders, trainers, spectators, judges and Show Officials adhere to the rules and regulations as laid down in the Rule Book of EB, interfacing with management, judges and other officials as necessary.
- ii. The Steward should clearly understand that he has no authority in connection with the management or the judging of a show. He is the representative of EB to the Show Committee and should point out in a diplomatic manner any instance where Federation rules are not enforced. He should not dictate to the Judges or Show Committee but should immediately report to the Federation Competition Committee any violation of the rules which might invalidate a class.
- iii. He should keep himself available to Judges, exhibitors and Show Committee at all times to clarify the application of the Federation rules and investigate any situation where the rules are not upheld. The other duties of a Steward shall be, but are not limited to, the following:
  - a. to protect the interest of exhibitors, Judges and Show Committee.
  - b. to report to the Show Director any misrepresentation or substitution of entry without first informing the Show Secretary.
  - c. to report to the Show Director any offence or violation of the rules committed by an exhibitor, Judge or official and prefer charges against the violator if the violation is not properly handled by the Show Committee.

f) **Duties of a Ring Steward**

The Ring Steward's responsibility includes the following:

- i. overseeing all schooling at the horse show
- ii. monitoring ring conditions (including footing, sound system, and safety)
- iii. monitoring proper and adequate ring equipment (jump standards, proper taping, jump cups, safety cups, flags and proper rails, etc.)

- iv. monitoring proper tack, equipment, and attire, and
- v. interfacing with management, judges and other officials as necessary.

**g) Veterinarian**

Each show should have a qualified Veterinarian present throughout the show, or prior arrangements made to have a veterinarian 'on call'.

**h) Duties of a Show Veterinarian**

- i) The official Veterinarian shall ensure that he or a qualified associate is on duty during the hours of showing and shall be prepared to handle all injuries in the ring or on the grounds. He shall assist horse show committees in all matters pertaining to the health and welfare of the animals in the show.
- ii) The official Veterinarian's decision, if requested by the Judge as to the serviceable soundness of a horse (i.e. whether the horse shows evidence of lameness, broken wind or impairment of vision), shall be final for the purpose of awarding ribbons in the class for which he has been called. If he is not immediately available or not called upon, the judge's decision as to the serviceable soundness of a horse shall be final.
- iii) The official Veterinarian, if called upon by the Judge, shall act as a consultant in regard to structural faults, defects and blemishes in areas which might impair a horse's activity and durability. Having received the benefit of the Veterinarian's consultation, the Judge will then place the horses in question at his own discretion based on their relative merits in the light of the entire class specifications.
- iv) Only the Judge may call a Veterinarian during a class but is encouraged to do so if his opinion necessitates the disqualification of an entry. The Judge shall give the number of the horse in question and the veterinarian shall render his finding.
- v) The Veterinarian shall immediately, after leaving the ring, file a statement of his finding with the Show Secretary, setting forth therein the number and title of the class, the number of the horse, the date and time of day. The Veterinarian shall have his certificate of finding read and signed by the Steward of the show on duty during the particular class.
- vi) No exhibitor may procure and use a veterinarian's statement to contradict the decision of the Judge or official veterinarian with respect to his own horse.
- vii) Examination of a horse in the ring by a veterinarian shall be done as inconspicuously as possible and in such a manner as not to draw public attention thereto. Co-operation of Judges to this end is required. A horse shall not be required to leave the ring unless absolutely essential for its well-being.
- viii) If the Veterinarian is not immediately available, the Judge's decision as to the soundness of a horse shall be accepted for the purpose of excusing a horse from showing.
- ix) It shall be the duty of the Veterinarian to measure any animal requiring measurement in accordance with the rules of EB.

**i) Judge(s)**

- i) A Judge shall be selected by the Show Committee of each organization.
- ii) To judge a 'Rated' EB Show, eligible Judges shall have be licensed FEI officials or have USEF 'R' designation or USDF 'S' designation in the discipline(s) in which they have been hired to judge
- iii) A Judge shall not adjudicate in any class in which a member of his family, or any of his horses or pupils are competing, except Jumper classes.
- iv) A Judge shall not, during the period of a show at which he is judging be the house guest of a person who is exhibiting in his division at such show or whose family is exhibiting at such show, without the express request or consent of the Show Committee.

**j) Responsibilities of a Judge**

- i. Good judging depends upon a correct observance of the fine points and the selection of best horses for the purpose described by condition of the class. A Judge serves three interests: his own conscience, exhibitors and spectators. He should make clear to the audience that the best horses win. The attention of Judges is directed to the difference of requirements covering classes. The differences should be observed in adjudicating classes.
- ii. A Judge is obligated to adjudicate each class in conformity with the rules and specifications of that class as they appear in the Rule Book. He is expected to be proficient in his Division and possess a thorough knowledge of the rules of the Federation.
- iii. The decision of each judge constitutes solely his individual preferences and not a verdict by the Show Committee.
- iv. A Judge may order from the ring any unruly horse or one whose actions threaten to endanger other exhibitors or their entries.
- v. It is customary to invite the Judge to examine the jumps in the ring after they have been set.

**G4. COMPETITION GUIDELINES**

- i) All competitions are either Rated or Non-Rated by EB. It is possible to hold an EB-Rated class or an EB-Rated Division within shows which are otherwise Non-Rated by EB.
- ii) In EB-Rated Shows, all points earned in Rated classes and Divisions will count toward End of Year Championships.
- iii) In order for classes or shows to be Rated by EB (and therefore for points earned in said shows and/or classes to be counted toward End of Year Championships), the following requirements must be met:
  - 1. Schedules must be submitted for approval to the Executive Committee of EB (A minimum of 7 days is required for approval.)
  - 2. The Show schedule must include the following:
    - o a) name of judge and course designer,
    - o b) the names of the organizing committee of the show

- c) prizes, if any.
  - Classes be listed according to the Class number identified in the EB Class Specifications document and the correct Table and Article number for the class.
  - Size and number of competition arenas and provision for warmup arenas.
- 3. An Equestrian Bahamas official must be in attendance to verify that EB rules and regulations are followed with regards to the class(es) to be recognized.
- iv) Failure of Show Organizers to adhere to the Competition Guidelines outlined in Section G4 will result in classes not being counted for Championship points.

## **G5. EB- RATED SHOW REQUIREMENTS**

All EB-Rated shows must meet the following requirements, according to discipline:

### ***a) Hunters and Hunt Seat Equitation***

- i) Rated hunter and hunt seat equitation classes are to be judged in accordance with the principles of the rules of the USEF.
- ii) Judges must be hold an ‘R’ judging rating with USEF
- iii) Championship classes must be judged by a foreign rated judge, properly accredited with their National Federation. These classes must indicate the Championship number in the schedule for the show.

### ***b) Jumper Classes***

- i) Rated jumper classes are to be judged in accordance with the principles of the rules of FEI.
- j) Judges must be licensed by the FEI or hold a CEA Jumper Judging Certificate.
- k) Course Designer must be at least a CEA Candidate Course Designer or someone with comparable qualifications.

### ***c) Dressage Classes***

- i) Rated dressage classes must be held in accordance with the principles of the rules of the F.E.I.
- ii) Championship classes must be judged by a foreign rated judge, properly accredited with their National Federation. Refer to *EB Rule Book: Dressage* for further information.

### ***d) Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League (BIEL) Shows***

- i) Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League Shows must be held in accordance with the principles of the rules laid forth in the Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League Rule Book.

## **G6. NON-RATED (SCHOOLING) SHOWS**

Schooling Shows are the lowest level of horse show and may have local judges for the equitation and flat classes. National trainee jumper judges may judge the jumping. These shows will not count for points and their schedules need not be presented to the Rules Committee of the Federation for approval.

## **G7. EMERGENCY PLANNING**

Whether a show is Rated or Non-Rated, it is the responsibility of the Show Committee to plan and make provision for the handling of emergency situations such as may arise at a Show. For the protection of the audience and exhibitors such provisions must include the following:

- A qualified Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) present for the duration of show
- A qualified veterinarian in attendance for the duration of show OR provision for a qualified veterinarian to be on call in case of emergency.
- A fire extinguisher in a place of easy and immediate access.

## **G8. DEFINITION OF EXHIBITOR AND COMPETITOR**

The term `exhibitor' when used herein refers to the owner or lessee of a horse, or a competitor showing a horse when entered in a class where only the merits of the horse are to be considered. In Equitation classes the term `exhibitor' refers to the rider. An exhibitor may not serve as a Judge in any Show in which he exhibits until he has finished all his classes.

- a) The term `not in good standing' defines any person who is currently expelled or suspended by the Federation.
- b) A person not in good standing may not judge, officiate, direct, exhibit, ride or drive at a Rated Show.
- c) The term `disqualified' defines a person who has been deprived of the right of participating in a given show by the Directors of that show for just cause.
- d) It is within the jurisdiction of a Rated Show to disqualify an exhibitor and/or his entries and cause him to forfeit his winnings and ribbons at that show, and for cause to have the horses removed from the grounds without being held liable for damage. All such disqualifications must be reported to the Federation.
- e) All competitors must be fully financial members of Equestrian Bahamas when entering EB designated classes: that is, those classes which count toward End of Year Championship points.
- f) All horses shown in Rated Shows must be registered with EB

## **G9. CONDUCT OF SHOW**

- a) No person may enter the ring or collecting ring except judges, stewards, show officials, riders or drivers, or attendants where classes permit attendants. Coaches are only allowed in the Collecting Ring and/or Warm Up area, except where otherwise stated.
- b) Award winners must be mounted and properly attired when receiving awards, except in instances where two competitors have ridden the same horse. Competitors are not allowed in the Main Ring un-mounted without prior permission from the Judge.
- c) No exhibitor shall approach a Judge with regard to a decision unless he first obtains permission from the Steward who shall arrange an appointment with the Judge at a proper time and place. No exhibitor has the right to inspect the Judge's cards without the Judge's permission.

#### **G10. AGE OF A JUNIOR COMPETITOR**

- a) A Junior competitor is an individual who has not reached his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday as of October 1<sup>st</sup> of the current competition year.
- b) The age of an individual on October 1<sup>st</sup> will be maintained throughout the entire competition year.
- c) Persons born on October 1<sup>st</sup> assume the greater age on that date.
- d) If a competition is in progress on September 30<sup>th</sup> of any year, Junior status at the start of the competition will be maintained throughout that competition only.

#### **G11. IMMEDIATE FAMILY**

- a) For horse show purposes the term 'Immediate Family' shall include the following: husband, wife, parents, child, stepchild, brother, sister, half brother, and sister, in-laws of the same relations as stated above, and grandparents.

#### **G12. DEFINITION OF HORSE AND PONY**

- a) The height of all animals shall be stated in hands instead of 'inches'; a hand is 4". Maximum height shall be reckoned as so many hands 'and under' while minimum height shall be reckoned as 'over' a given number of hands.
- b) A pony shall be considered to be 14.2hh and under. Horses must be over 14.2hh. The height accepted will exclude shoes, with an allowance of 1/2 inch for steel shoes and 3/4 inch for rubber shoes, plus the measurement of any pad.

#### **G13. MEASUREMENT**

##### ***a) Competition Procedures***

- i. Competition Management is required to check for measurement cards. Ultimately it is the responsibility of each owner to possess a valid measurement card for horses and ponies showing in divisions that require a measurement card. Showing

- an animal that requires a measurement that does not possess a valid card will result in a fine to the owner and or trainer or the competition.
- ii. All animals presented for measurement of any kind are subject to drug testing.
  - iii. Animals in competition in any class or division where there are animal height specifications are subject to measurement. Measurements will be conducted in accordance with the procedures laid out below.
  - iv. The measurement form must be filled out completely.
  - v. Measurements must be performed by an EB steward and an EB-recognized veterinarian. If the measurement takes place during a competition, the measurement must be performed by an EB Steward and the official competition veterinarian.
  - vi. Before an animal is measured for a measurement card, the animal must be jogged for soundness on a firm, level surface with the official veterinarian in attendance, and show no evidence of lameness.
  - vii. If an animal being measured at a competition is found to be lame by the official competition veterinarian, said animal cannot show at that competition and no measurement may be conducted.
  - viii. Upon the veterinarian's verification of soundness, the steward's measurement is final. The steward and the veterinarian shall sign the measurement form.
  - ix. A steward may not measure an animal that is owned by a member of his family or by any of his or his family member's clients.
  - x. Measurement of height must be taken at an official measuring station.
  - xi. Stewards who perform measurements and other competition officials present who measure animals at a competition are responsible for their true measurement and must use the Federation approved measurement stick. The names of the measuring stewards will be printed on the measurement card and they and other measuring officials will be subject to charges of rule violations if it is subsequently determined that a measurement is incorrect.
  - xii. Measurements are solely for the internal use of the Federation, its licensed competitions and its licensed officials in connection with competing for prizes, and do not constitute any representation or warranty regarding measurement information; accordingly, the Federation, its Licensed Competitions and its licensed officials make no representation and shall have no liability whatsoever for measurement errors.
  - xiii. Federation officials are not to perform "courtesy", "trial", or repeat measurements. Once a pony or horse is presented for measurement, the owner/agent must accept the resulting measurement.

**c) *Required measurements and re-measurements***

- i. An animal must be measured each competition year until it reaches the age of six. Animals five years and under will be issued a Temporary Measurement card designating the year measured. Animals six years and older will be issued a Standard Measurement card which does not have to be renewed.
- ii. Those animals that are measured (and for which a valid measurement form is

- received by the Federation office) in the month of December immediately preceding the calendar year in which they turn six years of age will be issued a measurement card that does not have to be renewed.
- iii. For ponies, with the exception of ponies under six years old, once a pony is issued a measurement card, a new card will not be issued unless the height of the pony is protested and upheld, or unless an appeal is made and the remeasurement results in the pony moving to a section other than that indicated on its current measurement card.
  - iv. For horses, with the exception of horses under six years old, once a horse is issued a measurement card, a new card will not be issued unless the height of the horse is protested and upheld, or unless an appeal is made and the remeasurement results in the horse moving to a section other than that indicated on its current measurement card.
  - v. It is the responsibility of the Exhibitor to ensure that the horse is in the correct height division. It is also the responsibility of the Exhibitor to supply the EB Secretary with official changes to the height of their horse. This information should be sent to the EB Secretary within 7 business days after the day of re-measurement.

***d) Measurement protest and appeal procedures***

- i. An owner or trainer who questions the accuracy of an initial measurement or an owner or trainer of an animal declared ineligible for a division or section on account of height may protest a measurement.
- ii. All protests must be registered with the Federation in writing within 15 days of the original measurement.
- iii. Should the height of a horse be protested it shall be the duty of the Show Committee to have the official veterinarian measure the pony or horse at the official measurement station. In the event of a dispute officials may request the horse/pony be measured without shoes. .
- iv. Pending the protest of an initial measurement, the animal continues to be eligible to compete as initially measured.
- v. The animal is barred from competing in the particular height division or section for which he was declared ineligible until the remeasurement is performed.
- vi. There shall be only one appeal per each initial measurement, and only one appeal per each protest measurement.
- vii. All expenses including veterinary fees must be paid to the Federation by the appellant.
- viii. If an animal whose height has been protested is found to be lame by the official competition veterinarian, the measurement card will be held by the Federation and the owners must request an appeal measurement in order to reinstate the card.

***d)Protest of initial measurement***

- i. If the protest is denied the initially issued card remains in effect.
- ii. If the protest is upheld, upon surrender of the initially issued card (if any) a new

- card will be issued based upon the appeal measurement.
- iii. If the owner fails to submit the animal for the protest measurement, all points accumulated for End of Year Awards are nullified.

### ***E )Appeal of protest measurement***

- i. If the appeal is upheld, a Temporary Measurement card is issued to animals five years of age and under and a Standard Measurement card is issued to animals six years of age or over. The Temporary and Standard Measurement cards cannot be protested for the remainder of the competition year.
- ii. If the appeal is upheld, the animal will receive credit for all points accumulated including all points, prize money and trophies won at the competition where protested.

### **G14. AGE OF HORSES/PONIES**

Horses and Ponies under 3 years of age may not be ridden in any EB Rated Show.

### **G15. SCHOOLING**

- a) Schooling shall only be permitted, whether over fences or under saddle, in an area authorized by the Show Committee.
- b) It is the responsibility of the Show Committee to provide a schooling area. A minimum of one vertical and one oxer must be provided. The ground must be in good condition. The jumping area should provide sufficient room for training.
- c) The main ring may only be used for schooling in the absence of a designated schooling area. If the main ring is used for practice schooling should be restricted either to: a) designated fences for schooling purposes or b) schooling rounds of no more than 120 seconds.
- d) If schooling rounds are allowed, no horse or pony may be schooled for more than three (3) schooling rounds in total in a competition.
- e) The schooling area will be overseen by an EB Steward to ensure that all rules and regulations are followed.
- f) The only practice fences that competitors may jump are those provided by the Show Committee. The use of fence materials, other than those provided by the Show Committee, is forbidden under penalty of elimination.
- g) All riders must be wearing a number while mounted, even in the schooling areas or show environs.
- h) No one may hold a rail or touch a standard while it is being jumped
- i) All rails must be either in cups or totally on the ground (exception: one end of a cross rail may rest on the ground). Rails must be able to fall easily when hit.
- j) If a rail is placed on the edge of a cup it must be placed on the far side of the cup, and is only allowed at an oxer if it does not cause the front rail to be higher than the back rail (i.e. offset).
- k) Walk rails may be no higher than 12” at the highest point. A walk rail may be parallel to the ground with both ends in cups, or may have one end resting on

the ground.

- l) There may never be more than two (2) rails on the back of an oxer, with the lower rail equal in height to the lowest rail on the front of the oxer. If the oxer is flagged so that it may only be jumped in one direction, there may only be one (1) rail on the back.
- m) Ground lines are not mandatory, however if they are used they must be placed either directly below the front of the jump or up to 1 m (3'3") out. If a ground line is used on the landing side of a jump, there must be one on the take off side, and it may not be any further out than the one on the take off side. If an oxer is flagged so it may only be jumped in one direction, the ground line is only permitted on the front of the oxer.
- n) If a trot, canter or placement rail is used, it may not be used at a jump higher or wider than 1.30m (4'3"). If used on the take-off side, it may not be closer than 2.50m (8'2"). If used on the landing side of a vertical, it may be no closer than 3.0m (9'10"). If used on the landing side of an oxer, it may be no closer than 20' from the back rail of the oxer.
- o) If guide rails are used on the landing side of a jump, the closest part of the rail must be a minimum of 3 m (9'10") from the jump. The schooling supervisor may allow a shorter distance for ponies.
- p) A cross rail may be made either by itself, in which case it may not exceed 1.30 m (4'3") in height, or be below a rail at a vertical, or the front of an oxer.
- q) Swedish Oxers are permitted with the following stipulations: a) no more than a 6" height difference (low to high points) for ponies, and b) no more than an 18" height difference (low to high points) for horses.
- r) No foreign object may be laid over a rail or placed on a jump standard during schooling.
- s) The use of materials which proves dangerous is forbidden.
- t) If space and available material allows and safety conditions permit, combinations may be built using correct distances. Bounce jumps may only be used with verticals and may not exceed 1.10m (3'7") in height.
- u) Manual poling is not permitted.
- v) Any action deemed not in the best interest of the horse will not be allowed.
- w) The decision of the the Chief Steward regarding schooling fences, or tack and equipment in the warm-up area is final.

## **G16. SOUNDNESS**

Unless specific division rules state otherwise, all animals must be serviceably sound for horse show purposes i.e. such animals must not show evidence of lameness, broken wind or impairment of vision.

## **G17. BANNED SUBSTANCES**

- a) For the purposes of EB, a banned substance is considered to be any substance designated as a banned or controlled substance in competition under FEI rules. For a full list of banned and controlled substances refer to the FEI.
- b) No horse shall be shown in any class if it has been administered in any manner

- any banned substance. A banned substance is any stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer or local anesthetic which might affect the performance of a horse (stimulants and depressants are defined as medications which stimulate or depress the circulatory, respiratory, or central nervous systems.) Also prohibited are any drugs, regardless of how harmless or innocuous they might be, which by their very nature might mask or screen the presence of the aforementioned prohibited drugs, or prevent or delay testing procedures.
- c) All horses in competition at the show and during any qualifying rounds are subject to examination by a licensed veterinarian. Examination may include physical, saliva, urine, blood tests, including the administration of a drug to induce urination at the owner's request, or any other test or procedure in the discretion of said licensed veterinarian necessary to effectuate the purposes of this rule. Said veterinarian may examine any or all the horses in a class (or qualifying event) or all classes in the show.
  - d) Refusal to submit the horse for examination or to co-operate with the veterinarian or his agents constitutes a violation.
  - e) If a horse is found to have been administered any banned or prohibited substance, any results, ribbons, points or awards won at that show are null and void.
  - f) If a horse is found to have been administered any banned or prohibited substance, the athlete will be disciplined in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the FEI. The horse owner and the trainer of said horse will be given a warning.
  - g) A repeat offense may result in the suspension of the owner and/or trainer, at the discretion of the Equestrian Bahamas Executive Committee.

#### **G18. CRUELTY**

- a) At all times Equestrian Bahamas members and participants in Equestrian Bahamas events are bound by the FEI Code of Conduct for Welfare of the Horse. Cruelty to or the abuse of a horse by any person at an EB Rated Show is forbidden, constitutes a violation and renders the offender subject to penalty. The Show Committee may bar violators from further participation for the remainder of the show.
- b) It shall be the duty of the Show Officials to report to the Federation any person who indulges in this practice for such further action as may be deemed appropriate. The Committee may appoint a veterinarian to inspect any animal in competition.
- c) Refusal to submit an animal for examination by an authorized veterinarian after due notification shall constitute a violation.  
The following acts are included under the words 'Cruelty' or 'Abuse' but are not limited thereto:
  - Excessive use of a whip on any horse in a stall, runway, schooling area, show ring or elsewhere on the show grounds by any person.
  - Rapping the leg of horse with the butt end of a riding crop or other implement.
  - Use of any substance to induce temporary heat.
  - Manual poling with any object.

- Use of wire or chain in conjunction with any schooling jump.
- Use of electric device in schooling or showing.
- Showing a horse with raw or bleeding sores around the ear,saddle, coronets, pasterns or legs.
- Inhumane treatment of a horse in a stall, runway, schooling area, - show ring or elsewhere on the show grounds, by any person.

## **G19. APPOINTMENTS, TACK AND ATTIRE**

***Dress- General:*** It is tradition in the show ring that riders and drivers be correctly attired for the class in question, that attendants be neatly dressed and horses properly presented.

- i. At all EB sanctioned competitions, riders in all Hunter and all Hunt Seat Equitation classes (not to jump or over obstacles) and anyone mounted anywhere on the competition grounds, must wear properly fastened protective headgear which meets or exceeds ASTM (American Society for Testing and Materials)/SEI (Safety Equipment Institute) standards for equestrian use and carries the SEI tag or BSI/BS EN standard. It must be properly fitted with harness secured.
- ii. A Show Committee must bar riders without protective headgear from entering the ring for classes in which protective headgear is required and may bar any entry or person from entering the ring if not suitably presented to appear before an audience.
- iii. Any rider violating this rule at any time must immediately be prohibited from further riding until such headgear is in place.
- iv. Competitors should be neatly and suitably attired in coat, riding hat, shirt and tie, choker or stock, breeches or jodhpurs and boots.
- v. Juniors showing any horse in-hand or during a jog for soundness must wear approved protective headwear with the attached safety harness fastened.
- vi. Members of the Armed Services or the Police may wear the Service Dress Uniform.
- vii. Formal show attire is required for all classes at the Equestrian Bahamas Championship Show.
- viii. Except for Championship or International Events, the Show Organizing Committee may with discretion alter the dress requirements for extreme weather circumstances.

## **G20. EQUIPMENT- GENERAL**

- a) No mounted exhibitor may wear or carry an electronic communication device (i.e., cellular telephone, pager, walkie talkie, iPod, etc.) while in the competition ring or schooling 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 use electronic

- devices if, prior to the class, he/she presents to the EB Steward written justification from medical/therapy personnel setting forth the necessity of the equipment.
- b) Any rider competing and or riding anywhere on the competition grounds with their stirrup, stirrup leather, or foot tied and/or secured in any manner, will automatically be eliminated from the entire competition. The steward will note the trainer name(s) on the steward's report and further disciplinary actions may be taken by the Federation.
  - c) Competitors are prohibited from carrying a whip that is longer than 30" (75cm) while jumping or schooling over fences. A rider may not carry more than one whip. Whips that are weighted at the end are prohibited. No exhibitor may carry a whip longer than 30" while competing

## **G21. COURSES**

- a) Course diagrams must be posted at least one half-hour before scheduled time of class unless they have been illustrated in the prize list.
- b) The plan or diagram of the course must show the obstacles which must be taken in the order indicated by numbers but apart from this the rider is not bound to follow a compulsory track. An arrow is used on the diagram to indicate the direction in which each obstacle is to be taken. When distances between related fences in all classes, rated or unrated, are 100' or less, the distance must be included on the posted course diagram.
- c) If the area of the courtesy circle is to be restricted by a mandatory line, the line must be indicated on the diagram and a corresponding barrier must be erected on the course. As this becomes part of the judging specifications, this policy must be clearly stated in the prize list and announced at least one hour prior to the class.
- d) All posted courses at Federation- rated competitions must include the numbers of fences to be jumped (i.e. Fences 1-8). In Jumper classes courses must show the length of course, the number of obstacles, the calculated riding speed, the Time Allowed and the Time Limit.
- e) When a range of fence heights is allowed in a class or section, the minimum height must be used unless a higher height is specified in the prize list.
- f) Except in case of inclement weather, broken equipment, or similar emergency a course must not be altered except by written permission of all exhibitors. If one or more original obstacles are rendered unusable during a class and no duplicate exists, management may substitute obstacles which approximate as nearly as possible the originals.

## **G22. SHOW PROCEDURES**

### ***a) Performance***

When the class is held in a ring, the performance starts as the competitor enters and ends when he leaves.

***b) Time Schedule***

- i.*** The announced order or time for classes shall not be changed unless (1) at least 12 hours' notice of such change be given to each exhibitor and judge affected, or (2) the consent of each exhibitor affected must be obtained.
- ii.*** Provided the order of events is not changed, the Show Committee shall have the privilege of calling any class up to 30 minutes ahead of its scheduled time, except the first class which may not commence ahead of advertised time. Exhibitors should be ready for classes in reasonable time and may not protest such advance of schedule.
- iii.*** When it is found that a class is being delayed by horses not being ready to perform, the competition may be closed at the order of the Judge or Show Committee, provided warning is issued and exhibitors are given 2 minutes in which to appear at the in-gate, ready to participate except in Jumper Division (in which specific rules prevail).

***c) Headgear Safety Procedures***

- i.*** For all exhibitors competing in the Working Hunter, Jumper or Hunt Seat Equitation Divisions, 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.
- ii.*** 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.

***d) Broken Equipment, Loss of Shoe and Acts of God***

- i.*** In cases of broken equipment or loss of shoe while competing, the rider or handler may choose to continue without penalty. If they decide to stop to address the situation that rider/handler will be eliminated.
- ii.*** In the case of the jump(s) falling over due to weather or act of God, the rider must remain in the ring until receiving instructions from the judge(s) or be eliminated. In this instance, the decision of the judge(s) is final.
- iii.*** A class in operation at the time of stopping of a show shall cease and no placements shall be made.
- iv.*** If the class is continued at a succeeding session of the show, it shall go on from the point where it ceased and scores already credited shall count.

***e) Elimination***

In the event of elimination, the horse must exit the ring immediately.

***f) Back to Back Classes***

No more than two rounds may be ridden back to back. Classes using back to back rounds must be jogged and pinned separately.

***g) Jumping Order – Show Jumping Classes***

- i. A jumping order of go must be posted in a conspicuous place at least one-half hour before the class if it was not displayed in the show schedule. The jumping order must be legible to a mounted rider.
- ii. If a jumping order is used throughout the section, a systematic rotation of the starting list must be employed so that a complete cycle is made during the competition.
- iii. Failure to enter the ring within one minute after an audible signal to proceed is given incurs elimination. The time limit for entering the ring must be enforced by competition management.
- iv. Management may permit a rider to compete out of order to minimize delays and in case of class conflicts. Riders may move ‘up’ the order (that is, compete earlier in the rotation) but may not move down.

***h) Definition of Compete***

- i. A horse has competed in an over fences class when the horse's entry number and a score for at least the first jump are recorded on the judges card. A horse has competed in an under saddle class when the horse has entered the ring.
- ii. A horse failing to complete the entire course is not eligible to receive points, awards, or prize money. When three or fewer horses compete in an under saddle class, all horses’ numbers must be listed on the judges card regardless of whether they receive an award.

**G23. SHOW ENTRIES**

***a) Submission of Entries***

- i. The entry blank for a Rated Show must be submitted to the Federation no less than 14 days before the Competition. Entry Blanks must be available to the general membership, either through electronic copy or otherwise, no less than 7 days before the Competition.
- ii. Entries must be made in writing on the entry form provided the Show Committee, and duly signed by the owner and/or exhibitor and authorized agent.
- iii. The following statement must be printed on the entry form:  
*“Every entry at a recognized competition shall constitute an agreement and affirmation that all participants (which include, without limitations, the owner, lessee, trainer, manager, agent, coach, driver, handler, and the horse), for themselves, their principals, representatives, employees and agents: 1) Shall be subject and bound by the constitution and rules of Equestrian Bahamas and the local rules of the competition; 2) Represent that every horse, rider, driver and handler is eligible as entered; 3) Agree that they participate voluntarily in the competition fully aware that horse sports and the competition involve inherent dangerous risk of serious injury or death, and accept that no helmet or protective equipment can protect against all foreseeable injury and by participation they expressly assume any and all risks of injury or loss, and they agree to indemnify and hold Equestrian Bahamas, Mariposa Stables, Camperdown Equestrian Centre, the competition and their officials, directors, employees and*

*agents harmless from and against all claims including for any injury or loss resulted, directly or indirectly, from the negligent acts or omissions of said officials, directors, employees, or agents of Mariposa Stables, Camperdown Equestrian Centre,, Equestrian Bahamas, or the competition. Your signature below indicates your acceptance of and compliance with the above statement."*

- iv. Entries must be accompanied by funds to cover applicable entry fees.
- v. Entry fees are set at the discretion of the Show Committee. Entry blanks should include a section for the payment of a show levy to the Federation. One levy payment shall be made per day of competition.
- vi. The Federation shall set the amount of the show levy, which is subject to change.
- vii. The Show Committee is responsible for collection of the show levy and payment to the Federation no later than seven (7) days after the competition has ended.
- viii. A horse will not be allowed to compete unless proper entry has been made, and both horse and rider have fulfilled all rules as required.
- ix. When entering EB designated classes all competitors must be members of and all horses must be registered with Equestrian Bahamas at the time of entry.
- x. Entry forms must be completed correctly and in their entirety, including the EB registration number and designator H for horse or P for pony of each animal, and the EB membership number (if applicable) for each rider.
- xi. Points for classes or divisions will not count towards End of Year awards if the horse/rider entry was received without all the correct required information.
- xii. Exhibitors are responsible for their own errors and those of their agents in the preparation of entry forms.
- xiii. In the event that a Prize List shall contain a statement as to any entry not in accordance with the exhibitor's original entry form, it is the duty of the Show Committee to take all steps necessary, including public announcements, to correct the error giving precedence to the Exhibitor's entry form, and not the Prize List in error, as authority.

#### ***b) Interpretation of Lease***

An official lease of a horse shall not be construed as bonafide ownership for show purposes.

#### ***c) Substitutions***

- i.*** **HORSE:** Substitutions of the horse may be made after the announced date of the closing of entries in Equitation classes or in classes where more than one horse represents an entry (i.e. pairs, teams, tandems). Substitution of horses for Equitation classes does NOT require a veterinary certificate, but the new mount must be registered with EB.
- ii.*** Substitution of the horse may not be made after the announced date of the closing of entries in Hunter classes, with the exception of cases as in G32.c.iii
- iii.*** If a horse is sold or injured after the closing of entries Competition Management MAY allow, upon written application, an exhibitor to

substitute another horse in the same Hunter class (or classes), but the new entry must be given another number. Proof of sale &/or a veterinarians certificate may be required.

- iv. **RIDER:** Substitution of rider in Equitation classes is not permitted.
- v. Substitution of rider/driver in other classes is permitted except as in G.32.b) (v), or unless otherwise stated in the show schedule.

**d) *Withdrawal of Entries***

- i. Scratches must be made with the Show Secretary **only**.
- ii. Scratches may be made without penalty up to 7 days before the show.
- iii. Scratches made within 7 days before the show may be subject to a non- or partial-refunding of the entry fee, subject to the Show Committee's discretion.
- iv. Any horse leaving the ring without the exhibitor's volition shall be deprived of an award in that class.
- v. Any rider entering the ring without his competitor's number appropriately displayed in considered to have withdrawn from the class, and will be deprived of an award in that class.

**e) *Post Entries***

- i. In the event that a Recognized Show **does not** desire to accept post entries it shall so state in the prize list and catalogue and **no exceptions** shall be made.
- ii. In the event that a Recognized Show **does** desire to accept post entries it shall so state in the prize list and catalogue.
- iii. Post entries can only be accepted up to 30 minutes prior to the starting of the class and upon receipt of a fully completed entry form, including the signature of exhibitor or his representative.
- iv. Post entries are permitted for horses not already entered in the show as long as the horse is registered with the EB.

**f) *Refusal of Entries***

- i. Show Organizers reserve the right to refuse any entry of an exhibitor who has shown an objectionable attitude towards a given show or previous unsportsmanlike behaviour at a Show or to its management.

**G24. PROTESTS, APPEALS AND HEARINGS**

**a) *Protest procedures***

- i. A protest may be made to a Show Committee by an exhibitor or agent or parent of a Junior Exhibitor or official of the show for any violation of these rules. It must be (a) in writing, (b) signed by the protester, (c) addressed to the Secretary of the show at which the violation occurred, (d) accompanied by a deposit of \$50.00 and (e) received by a member of the Show Committee within 30 minutes of the alleged violation or completion

of class.

- ii. A protest must give the full name of the exhibitor, competitor, trainer, or parent against whom the protest is being lodged, and contain a complete and definite statement of the acts which constitute the alleged violation. Precise details regarding a violation of the rules are necessary. The maker must be prepared to substantiate the protest by personal testimony at a hearing, or by sworn statement, witnesses or other evidence.

**b) *Appeal Hearing Procedures***

- i. An appeal jury shall hear all protests officially lodged by the end of show during which the protest is received.
- ii. At non-rated shows, the appeal jury shall be comprised of the Show Committee of the host barn. At EB-rated shows, the appeal jury shall be comprised of the Show Committee plus a designated EB Representative.
- iii. Any person or show against whom a protest is filed shall be entitled to a hearing. Accused persons may attend the hearing at their option and may bring witnesses in their own behalf. All persons directly concerned shall be given the opportunity to appear.
- iv. If the protest is sustained, the deposit shall be returned to the protester - if not sustained, the deposit shall be forfeited to the show.

**c) *Decisions not subject to protest***

- i. The decision of an official show veterinarian or the Judge regarding the soundness of a horse is not subject to protest.
- ii. A Judge's decision representing his individual preference is not subject to protest unless such decision is alleged to be in violation of rules as laid out in the EB Rule Book.

## **Part II: Hunter Divisions**

### **H1. ELIGIBILITY AND JUDGING**

**a) *Eligibility***

- i. The same horse and rider combination may only enter in 1 hunter division per show.
- ii. The Hunter Divisions are open to stallions, mares or geldings. Juniors must not ride or handle stallions anywhere on the competition grounds. Manageable stallions ridden by seniors are eligible for all senior classes, but the Show Committee has the right to refuse entry of any stallion of safety or other issues are of a concern. This includes stallions that pose a risk to the safety of others.
- iii. Classes may be divided into Green Hunter and Regular Hunter. A Green Hunter is a horse of any age in his first or second year of showing. A Regular Hunter is a horse of any age and is not restricted by previous showing.

**b) Model Classes**

- i. If a Model class is held in the Pony Hunter Division it must be the first class held in any section.
- ii. In the Junior and Children's Hunter Divisions if a Model class is offered, it must be in addition to the minimum number of classes required for a section rating.

**c) Judging**

- i. All classes must be judged on performance and soundness, and when indicated, conformation, suitability, or manners. When a horse makes two faults at one obstacle only the major fault will be counted (Exception; refusals count in addition.)
- ii. When an obstacle is composed of several elements in the same vertical plane, a fault at the top element is the only one penalized.
- iii. At a combination, the faults committed at each obstacle are considered separately. In case of a refusal or run-out at one obstacle in a combination, the competitor may re-jump the previous as well as the following obstacles.
- iv. Judges must penalize unsafe jumping and bad form over fences, whether touched or untouched.
- v. Teams, Pairs and unicorns (abreast and tandem) should be judged as a single unit, scoring only major faults at each obstacle. (Exception: in cases where two or more horses have knockdowns or refusals, they are scored cumulatively.)
- vi. Circling once upon entering the ring and once upon leaving is permissible.
- vii. In all classes, trotting or cantering through the in-gate without prior permission is forbidden. The penalty for contravening this rule is either a fine or elimination from the class, at the discretion of the judge. Under special circumstances, a steward or judge may give permission for a horse to trot into the ring, but not out of the ring.
- viii. In all classes over obstacles judges must line up competitors on merit of performance before considering conformation or soundness, including two more entries than the number of ribbons offered if there are sufficient entries without major faults.
- ix. In classes over obstacles, competitors cannot be requested to show at a walk, trot and canter or to re-jump the course unless eliminations are held. If eliminations are held, the finals are judged as an independent class.
- x. After all competitors have had an opportunity to compete over a course in the Regular Working section, competitors with faults which would eliminate the competitor from ribbons, may be excused at management's discretion, provided four more competitors than the number of ribbons awarded have completed the course. In Green Working classes riders are encouraged to withdraw after a major fault.

*d) Soundness*

All horses must be serviceably sound. At the judge's discretion, horses being considered for an award may be jogged for soundness with rider dismounted. (Exception: Under saddle classes).

*e) Conformation*

Judged on the quality, substance and soundness of the horse. Judges must penalize but not necessarily eliminate horses with structural faults, defects or blemishes (such as pinfiring) in areas which might impair their activity and durability.

*f) Performance*

An even hunting pace, manners, jumping style together with faults and way of moving over the course as well as when being jogged for soundness. Manners to be emphasized in Ladies and Junior classes. When the class is held in a ring, the performance starts as the competitor enters and ends when he leaves.

*g) Faults*

The following faults are scored according to the judge's opinion and depending on severity or division, may be considered minor or major faults.

- a. Rubbing the jump
- b. Swapping leads in a line or in front of a jump
- c. Late lead changes
- d. Freshness
- e. Spooking
- f. Kicking up or out
- g. Jumping out of form
- h. Jumping off the center line of jump
- i. Bucking and/or playing
- j. Adding a stride in a line with a related distance
- k. Eliminating a stride in a line with a related distance
- l. Striking off on a wrong lead on the courtesy circle. (May be corrected with either a simple or flying change of lead)

The following are considered major faults.

- a. Knockdown
- b. Refusal
- c. Refusal or stopping while on course
- d. Dangerous jumping
- e. Addressing a jump - coming to a stop in front of a jump in order to show the jump to the horse.
- f. Completely missing a lead change
- g. Adding or eliminating a stride in an in and out.

h. Breaking stride, or Trotting while on course. (Exceptions-Where posted on the course diagram i.e. trot jumps, steep banks, etc)

The following constitute elimination.

- a. Three refusals
- b. Off course
- c. Jumping course before it is reset
- d. Bolting from the ring
- e. Fall of horse and/or rider (rider shall not remount in the ring).
- f. Stopping for loss of shoe or broken equipment.

## **H2. TYPES OF OBSTACLES**

- i. Obstacles must simulate those found in the hunting field such as natural post and rail, brush, stone wall, white board fence or gate, chicken coop, aiken, hedge, oxer, etc.
- ii. Chicken coops hinged at the top and free at the bottom, triple bars and hogsback; striped rails; targets; any spread over 4' and square oxers are prohibited.
- iii. Every course must have at least four different type obstacles.
- iv. A 6" difference is recommended for the back element of an obstacle. There must be a minimum difference of 3". A ground line is recommended for all obstacles.
- v. The top element of all obstacles must be securely placed so that a slight rub will not cause a knockdown and must be equally secure for different heights in the same class.
- vi. In Handy classes obstacles must simulate those found in trappy hunting country. The course must have at least two changes of direction and at least one combination. Horses may be required to trot over one obstacle toward the end of the course and may be asked to lead over one obstacle.
- vii. An in and out is considered as two obstacles in the required number of obstacles. It must never be used at the start of the course.

## **H3. TACK AND APPOINTMENTS**

### ***a) Regular Hunter Divisions***

- i. English saddle of any type is required.
- ii. Regulation snaffles, pelhams, and full bridles, all with cavesson nose bands are recommended. A judge may penalize for non-conventional types of bits or nosebands.
- iii. Breastplates, boots of any kind and/or bandages are not allowed. In the case of inclement weather competition management may permit the use of

- bell boots.
- iv. Competitors may be refused an award unless they return to the ring for conformation or soundness with the same complete bridle in which they have performed.
  - v. Martingales of any type are prohibited in Under Saddle, hack and tie-breaking classes. Standing martingales are allowed for all over fence classes. All other martingales may be considered unconventional.
  - vi. All artificial appliances other than those permitted in division rules are prohibited. Bandages, tail-sets, chains, or other training devices are prohibited in the ring.
  - vii. Draw reins will not be permitted in any classes.
  - viii. Light pads and bar shoes are permissible, however, bar shoes indicate a weakness and in Conformation classes, a judge may penalize accordingly.

***b) Hunter Pleasure Divisions***

- i. The Bridle shall be light, show type; either snaffle, pelham, full bridle or kimberwick bit acceptable. Browband/cavessons must be of hunter type.
- ii. Junior Horse classes require to be shown in a snaffle bit of at least 3/8" diameter as measured 1/2" from the ring. The snaffle bit may be jointed, double jointed or unjointed. Full cheek (with or without keepers), French and Dr. Bristol snaffle bits are permitted.
- iii. The following are not permitted: ornamented bridles, browbands or cavessons, or saddle seat style colored browbands.

## **Part III – Hunt Seat Equitation**

### **EQ1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- a) **General.** Rider should have a workmanlike appearance, seat and hands light and supple, conveying the impression of complete control should any emergency arise. Exhibitors may ride side saddle in Adult Equitation classes but not in classes restricted to Juniors.
- b) **Hands.** Hands should be over and in front of horse's withers, knuckles thirty degrees inside the vertical, hands slightly apart and making a straight line from horse's mouth to rider's elbow. Method of holding reins is optional and bight of reins may fall on either side. However, all reins must be picked up at the same time.
- c) **Basic Position.** The eyes should be up and shoulders back. Toes should be at an angle best suited to rider's conformation; ankles flexed in, heels down, calf of leg in contact with horse and slightly behind girth. Iron should be on the ball of the

- foot and must not be tied to the girth.
- d) **Position in Motion.** At the walk, sitting trot and canter, body should be a couple of degrees in front of the vertical; posting trot, inclined forward; galloping and jumping, same inclination as the posting trot.
  - e) **Mounting and Dismounting.** To mount, take up reins in left hand and place hand on withers. Grasp stirrup leather with right hand and insert left foot in stirrup, toe in girth and mount. To dismount, rider may either step down or slide down. The size of rider must be taken into consideration.

## EQ2. CLASS ROUTINE

### *a) Over Obstacles*

- i. The performance begins when the horse enters the ring or is given the signal to proceed after entering ring. Except for refusals, jumping faults of the horse are not to be considered unless it is the result of the rider's ability.
- ii. No rider can be eliminated until ten riders have completed the course, or a number equal to the ribbons being awarded. (Exception: two refusals, fall of horse and/or rider and off course).
- iii. The following will result in elimination:
  - a. fall of horse and/or rider;
  - b. two cumulative refusals;
  - c. riding off course.
- iv. If elimination occurs during a ride-off, the competitor is placed last of all those chosen for the ride-off.
- v. Each competitor may circle once before approaching the first obstacle. He then proceeds around course keeping an even pace throughout. If a refusal occurs in a double or triple, competitors must re-jump all obstacles in the combination.
- vi. Any or all competitors can be called back to perform at a walk, trot and canter or to execute any appropriate tests included in class requirements.

### *b) Not to Jump*

- i. Competitors shall enter ring and proceed at least once around ring at each gait and, on command, reverse and repeat. Riders may be asked to work collectively without stirrups (with the exception of Lead Line and Walk & Trot Equitation).
- ii. The order to reverse can be executed by turning either toward or away from the rail. Light contact with horse's mouth is required. Entries then line up on command.
- iii. Any or all riders may be required to execute any appropriate tests included in class requirements. All tests used must be on the flat. Judges are encouraged to call for at least two tests of the top contestants.

### *c) Outside Assistance*

Outside assistance will be penalized at the judge's discretion.

**d) In-gate**

- i. In all classes, trotting or cantering through the in-gate without prior permission is forbidden. The penalty for contravening this rule is either a fine or elimination from the class, at the discretion of the judge.
- ii. Under special circumstances, a steward or judge may give permission for a horse to trot into the ring, but not out of the ring.

### **EQ3. TACK AND APPOINTMENTS**

- a) Regulation snaffles, pelhams, kimberwicks and full bridles, all with cavesson nose bands are recommended. A judge at his own discretion can penalize a horse with non- conventional types of bits or nose bands.
- b) Boots and conservative coloured bandages are permitted.
- c) The use of black stirrups, or stirrups that have entirely black branches is not permitted in any Equitation class. The use of black stirrups or stirrups which have entirely black branches will automatically result in elimination.
- d) Type of saddle is optional. Martingales are optional in classes over obstacles and in classes requiring both jumping and flat work. They are prohibited in flat classes. Any changes of equipment during a class can be penalized at the discretion of the judge. (Note: adding or taking off a martingale from one phase to another is not considered a change).

### **EQ4. JUDGING**

- a) Unsoundness does not penalize a competitor unless it is sufficiently severe to impair the required performance. In such cases, the imposition of a penalty is at the judge's discretion.
- b) Any rider not having his mount under sufficient control will be dismissed from the ring and disqualified from that class.
- c) Riders must remain on the same mount throughout all phases of a class until the judge requests a change.
- d) Attendants are not allowed in the ring except at the request of judge(s).
- e) At EB-Rated hunter and/or jumper competitions, judges may not adjudicate from the same location as the starter, or from a place where competitors and/or trainers are permitted to congregate.
- f) The following constitute major faults and can be cause for elimination:
  - i. a refusal
  - ii. loss of stirrup
  - iii. trotting while on course when not part of a test
  - iv. loss of reins.
- g) The following will automatically result in elimination
  - i. fall of horse and/or rider;

- ii. two cumulative refusals;
  - iii. off course;
  - iv. trotting or cantering through the in-gate or out-gate.
- h) In the event of elimination, the rider must exit the ring immediately.
  - i) If elimination occurs during a ride-off, the competitor is placed last of all those chosen for the ride-off, but placed before any riders not participating.

#### **EQ5. MONEY PRIZES**

Offering of prize money in Equitation classes for junior exhibitors and amateurs is forbidden. In Equitation classes the rider is the competitor and wins the award.

#### **EQ6. COURSE REQUIREMENTS**

- a) An Equitation class Over Fences must be held over at least six obstacles.
- b) In classes for riders under 15 years, jumps cannot exceed 3' and wings must be at least 30" wide.
- c) In Open, Medal and Classes for riders 15 to 18 years, obstacles cannot exceed 3'6" and wings are optional.
- d) Combinations are prohibited in classes restricted to riders under 12 years old. All combinations must be numbered with a single number and the designations A and B or A, B and C on the course diagram.

#### **EQ7. EQUITATION TESTS**

##### ***a) General Rules***

- i. Riders may be required to execute any appropriate tests, according to class requirements.
- ii. Tests may be performed either collectively or individually. Instructions must be publicly announced.
- iii. No rider can be asked to perform a test on another horse before he has performed the same test on his own.
- iv. If a rider does not attempt a part of the test (e.g., fails to back, fails to halt) a score of 50 shall be given for the first occurrence. If a rider attempts the test, but encounters difficulty (e.g., loss of counter lead, breaking to the canter in front of a trot fence), up to 10 points may be deducted depending on severity, for each occurrence. In the event that a rail comes down, first score the knockdown within the context of the round. Unless the knock down is caused by a MAJOR rider error, it should not be considered a MAJOR riding fault.
- v. When additional tests are desired, the judges' instructions to riders are publicly announced. It is suggested that the judge go over these instructions with the announcer immediately before they are announced to assure mutual understanding of the wording.
- vi. Judges cannot confer with riders individually during the line-up. (Exception: Verbal testing).
- vii. In Hunt Seat Equitation Medal classes, any exhibitor who does not participate

in the testing is placed last of those competitors called back to test. Should more than one exhibitor fail to return for testing they will be placed at the judge's discretion.

- viii. If exhibitors are called back collectively to test, they must remain in the ring until all exhibitors have completed the test.
- ix. Equitation tests must not have exhibitors trotting or cantering through in gate or out gate.

***b) Tests from which the Judge(s) may choose (USEF Equitation Tests 1-19):***

1. Halt (4 to 6 seconds) and/or back
2. Hand gallop
3. Figure eight at trot, demonstrating change of diagonals. At left diagonal, rider should be sitting the saddle when left front leg is on the ground; at right diagonal, rider should be sitting the saddle when right front leg is on the ground; when circling clockwise at a trot, rider should be on left diagonal; when circling counterclockwise, rider should be on the right diagonal.
4. Figure eight at canter on correct lead, demonstrating simple change of lead. This is a change whereby the horse is brought back into a walk or trot and restarted into a canter on the opposite lead. Figures to be commenced in center of two circles so that one change of lead is shown.
5. Work collectively at a walk, trot or canter.
6. Jump low obstacles at a trot as well as at a canter. The maximum height and spread for a trot jump is 3' for horses, 2' for ponies.
7. Jump obstacles on figure eight course.
8. Question(s) regarding basic horsemanship, tack and equipment and conformation.
9. Ride without stirrups, riders must be allowed option to cross stirrups.
10. Jump low obstacles at a walk as well as at a canter. The maximum height and spread for a walk jump is 2'.
11. Dismount and mount. Individually.
12. Turn on the forehand.
13. Figure eight at canter on correct lead demonstrating flying change of lead.
14. Execute serpentine at a trot and/or canter on correct lead demonstrating simple or flying changes of lead.
15. Change leads on a line demonstrating a simple or flying change of lead.
16. Change horses. (Note: this test is the equivalent of two tests.)
17. Canter on counter lead. (Note: no more than twelve horses may counter canter at one time.)
18. Turn on the haunches from the walk.
19. Demonstration ride of approximately one minute. Rider must advise judge beforehand what ride he plans to demonstrate.

***c) Suggested Guidelines for Tests***

- a) The following are suggested guidelines for appropriate tests in each Equitation

Division:

- a. Juniors under 8 years (Walk, Walk/Trot Divisions) - Test 1 or Test 8
- b. Juniors under 11 years - Tests 1-8
- c. Short Stirrup Equitation - 12 years & under – Tests 1-8
- d. Juniors 12-14 years Tests 1–12
- e. Juniors 15 to 17 years - Tests 1-18 (Test 19 only in Medal championship classes)
- f. Adults 18 years and over – Tests 1-19

## **Part IV: Pony Classes**

### **P1. ELIGIBILITY AND RESTRICTIONS**

- i. Riders must not have reached their 18th birthday as of 1st October of the current season.
- ii. Ponies must be handled by junior exhibitors in all phases of a class.
- iii. Stallions are prohibited from all classes.
- iv. Small ponies are not to exceed 12.2 hands, medium ponies are over 12.2 and do not exceed 13.2 hands; large ponies are over 13.2 and do not exceed 14.2 hands.
- v. Unless other class restrictions apply, regular classes are open to all ponies not exceeding 14.2 hands.

### **P2. JUDGING**

- a) In the Pony Division, provisions and specifications are the same as those listed for Hunter Division in EB Rules H.21-H.25 Qualifications must follow as nearly as possible those outlined for Hunters, with the exception of Equitation classes as outlined in P.31 b) (ii).
- b) In Equitation classes any pony that is suitable for the rider and capable of performing the required class routine is acceptable.
- c) Manners and suitability of a pony for the rider are to be emphasized in **all** classes. Extreme speed is penalized.
- d) Suitability of a pony for a rider is determined by height and weight of the rider as related to the size of the pony.
- e) Judges must penalize but not necessarily eliminate an entry not having such manners and suitability.

### **P3. PONY HUNTERS**

- a) The Pony Hunter competition will be conducted in three separate phases: In-Hand, Under Saddle and Over Fences. In determining each pony's total score, the Model will count 25%, Under Saddle 25% and Over Fences 50%.
- b) The competition will consist of six pony hunter sections: small green

- pony, medium green pony and large green pony, small pony, medium pony and large pony.
- c) In the Under Saddle phase, the ponies in each division will be split into groups of 12 or less. Each pony will be judged and given a score based on its performance in its group. At the discretion of the judge, the ponies in any one division may be called back to hack together.
  - d) The same junior exhibitor is not required to show an entry in all phases of the competition, unless it is a Championship class.

## **Part V: Jumpers**

### **J1: PENALTIES**

Jumpers are scored on penalties incurred between the starting line and finish line. A competitor, after receiving the signal to begin his/her round, is not being scored until crossing the starting line in the proper manner. Penalties may apply for late falling rails:

- a. after crossing the finish line but before leaving the ring, or
- b. before the tone sounds for the start of the next round.

Penalty faults include disobediences, falls, knockdowns (while in the process of jumping an obstacle) and time penalties. No more than one penalty may be scored at each attempt. If an obstacle is knocked down or displaced for any reason other than it was caused by jumping or an attempt to jump, no penalty is incurred.

Penalties will be assessed according to the following table of jumping faults:

1.	Knockdown: a. Of obstacle or standard with any portion of horse, rider or equipment, when jumping that obstacle, b. one or more feet in the water or on the lath, when the lath is being judged, c. or knockdown of rail placed over a water obstacle.	4 faults
2.	Knockdown of automatic timing equipment, other designated markers on start and finish lines	4 faults
3.	First disobedience anywhere on course	4 faults
4.	Second cumulative disobedience anywhere on course	Elimination  (Exception: classes designated for horses five years of age and under where penalty is 4 faults)

5.	Third cumulative disobedience anywhere on course in classes designated for horses five years of age and under	Elimination
6.	Exceeding Time Allowed (for each commenced second over the Time Allowed)	1 Fault
7.	A horse resisting for 45 consecutive seconds	Elimination
8.	Taking more than 45 seconds to jump the first obstacle after the time of the round has begun	Elimination
9.	Taking more than 45 seconds to jump the next obstacle on course	Elimination
10.	Fall of horse and/or rider	Elimination
11.	Jumping an obstacle before it is reset, or without waiting for signal to proceed	Elimination
12.	Starting before judge's signal to proceed	Elimination
13.	Jumping an obstacle before crossing start line unless said obstacle is designated as a practice obstacle or after crossing the finish line, whether forming part of the course or not	Elimination
14.	Off course	Elimination
15.	Leaving the enclosure of a closed obstacle incorrectly	Elimination
16.	Rider and/or horse leaving the arena before finishing the course	Elimination
17.	Any competitor at the end of his/her round who does not leave the arena through the designed gate (e.g. jumping out of the arena)	Elimination
18.	Actions against a horse deemed excessive (For example: excessive use of whip or spurs at any time within the arena.)	Elimination
19.	Exceeding the time limit	Elimination

## **J2: ASSESSING PENALTIES AT DIFFERENT FENCE TYPES**

- a. Verticals. When an obstacle is composed of several elements in the same vertical plane, a fault at the top element is the only one penalized.
- b. Spreads. When an obstacle to be taken in one effort is composed of several elements not in the same vertical plane (i.e., oxer, triple bar, etc.) faults at more than one element are penalized only once.
- c. Combinations. In combinations, the faults committed at each element are scored separately. In case of refusal or run-out at one element of a combination (and upon the judge's signal that the obstacle has been reset, if necessary), the competitor must re-jump the entire combination.

### **J3: BROKEN EQUIPMENT**

In cases of broken equipment or loss of shoe, the rider must continue if he wishes to avoid penalty, or may retire.

### **J4: SETTING A STANDARD OF JUMPING**

After the first round of the first class in any section, management or the judges may order a competitor from the ring when it becomes evident that their performance prohibits them from being in the ribbons.

### **J5: COURTESY FENCE**

An eliminated competitor has the right to make one attempt to jump an additional single obstacle, which the judge(s) may designate, but may not continue thereafter. (Exception: The right to attempt an additional obstacle does not apply in the case of the fall of the horse or rider.)

### **J6: EXITING THE ARENA**

- a. Any competitor who does not leave the ring promptly at the end of the round or after being eliminated is liable for a fine of up to \$100 payable to The Federation, and may be disqualified from future classes during the competition at the discretion of the judge(s).
- b. Any competitor at the end of his/her round who does not leave the arena through the designated gate(s) (e.g. jumping out of the arena), is eliminated.

### **J7: OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE**

Riders receiving physical assistance from outside the ring (i.e., lunge whips, etc.) while on course will be eliminated.

### **J8: OBSTACLES NOT ON COURSE**

Any competitor who jumps any obstacle not part of the course will be eliminated.

### **J9: DEFINITION OF TERMS: COMPETED, FAILING TO COMPLETE, WITHDRAWN, DID NOT START, RETIRED, ELIMINATED**

The following definitions will apply when necessary and applicable:

- a. **Competed.** A competitor is considered to have competed only after he has entered the ring, and received the signal to start.

- b. **Failing to Complete.** Competitors who are unable to complete the first round of a competition have no right to any prize, with the exception of Fault & Out, Gamblers Choice or other classes with special rules with requirements as to the finish.
- c. A competitor failing to complete a particular round shall have the reason recorded on the judge's card as follows:
  - i. Withdrew (WD), or did not start (DNS) indicates that the competitor failed to enter the arena within one minute of being called. The time for entering the ring must be enforced by management. To prevent unfairness to an exhibitor, management may extend the time for entering the ring.
  - ii. Retired (RT) indicated that the competitor voluntarily retired prior to completing their round.
  - iii. Eliminated (E or EL) indicates that during their round the competitor was eliminated by the judge for any of the various reasons indicated in these rules.

#### **J10: POINTS NOT COVERED IN RULES**

All Jumping classes are governed by the rules of FEI. In the unlikely event that a point arises not covered by the FEI Jumping Rules, Judges have the authority to make decisions on any point not covered in the rules applying to class procedure, scoring, and conduct affecting a class under their jurisdiction.

#### **J11: JUMPING TABLES – CLASSES SCORED ON FAULTS AND TIME**

Jumper classes are referred to according to the Jumping Table under which each round is scored. See FEI Jumping Rules.

## **Part VI: Awards**

### **A1. CHALLENGE TROPHIES**

- i. A challenge (annual/perpetual) trophy is a trophy donated to or offered by a show which must be won a specified number of times under specified conditions. When originally placed in competition it becomes the property of the Show Committee and cannot be withdrawn by the donor.
- ii. The conditions of a challenge trophy shall not be changed without the consent of the trophy donor or his legal representative and of all who have qualified as potential winners of such trophy.
- iii. The winner of a leg on a challenge trophy in competition is entitled to possession of such trophy to 11 months from date of winning unless a show stipulated that it shall remain in its possession. He shall be responsible for protection and care of the trophy while in his possession. At the expiration of 11 months or one month prior to the next annual show, the show may demand return of trophy if it has not been won outright. Failure to return the trophy shall constitute a violation and shall render the exhibitor subject to penalty. In the event of departure overseas of winner of trophy, custody of the trophy shall be given to the Show Committee.
- iv. If a trophy is destroyed, stolen or lost and thus cannot be restored, the exhibitor in whose possession it was shall pay to the show the cost of replacing it with a trophy equally suitable and satisfactory to the Show Committee. Such replacement of lost trophy if completed before the next competition, shall exempt the exhibitor from penalty.
- v. Should a show or class be discontinued or not held for any period of time, any unretired challenge trophies offered at such show must be returned at the expiration of 11 months to the last active show committee. This committee shall determine the disposition of such trophies but they may not be placed in competition at any show unless the provisions of G.34 a) (2) are met.

### **A2. PERPETUAL TROPHIES**

A perpetual trophy is a trophy donated to or offered by a show, which is never awarded permanently to an exhibitor but remains the property of and in possession of a show, which may at its discretion present to the annual winner a replica or souvenir trophy. The conditions of such trophy are identical with those of a challenge trophy except that previous winners need not be consulted when and if specifications are changed.

### **A3. CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS**

- a) In order for a Championship Award to be presented, a minimum of three (3) classes must be held for that Championship in Hunter and Equitation Divisions, and a minimum of two (2) classes must be held for that Championship in Jumper

Divisions. The competitor with the highest number of points is designated Division Champion; the competitor with the second highest number of points is designated Reserve Champion of the Division.

- b) In the event of a tie score: In Hunter Divisions the Championship and/or Reserve is awarded to the horse that accumulated the most points over fences. If horses have an equal number of points over fences and no points under saddle, the tied horses must be shown at a walk, trot and canter. Competitors may be asked to hand gallop at the discretion of the judge. (Exception: Green Hunters). This competition is judged as an independent under saddle class with conformation, soundness and performance to count as prescribed throughout the section. In Equitation Divisions there is no tiebreaker and competitors with an equality of points are judged to be tied. In Jumpers the tie-breaker will be the fastest time in the Speed class of the Division or if there is no speed class, in the speed portion of the two-phase class.
- c) If all tied horses are declared unsound, selection of the winner among such tied competitors is left to the discretion of the judges.

#### A4. END OF YEAR AWARDS

- a) End of Year Awards shall be granted to the horse or rider who has amassed the most points in the competition year in Rated Divisions as outlined in the Equestrian Bahamas Horse Show Class Specifications.
- b) The scoring year will commence on October 1<sup>st</sup>, and end on September 30<sup>th</sup> of the following year.
- c) Section A4 (b) notwithstanding, the points for End of Year Awards may be calculated at any point following the final horse show of the competition season.

#### A5. POINT SCORING

- i. Points will be awarded to 6th place (regardless of the number of ribbons offered). Points will be awarded as follows:
  - a. Classes with 6 or more entrants:
 

Place	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Points	10	6	4	3	2	1
  - b. Classes with 5 or fewer entrants:
 

Place	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
Points	8	5	3	2	1
- ii. Marshall & Sterling League Medal classes will be allocated points according to the rules of the Marshall & Sterling League.
- iii. Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League classes will be allocated points according to the rules of the Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League.
- iv. In Hunter Divisions ties will be broken by giving weight to points awarded in over fences classes. In Dressage and Equitation and Jumper Divisions all phases of a class carry equal weight.
- v. In the event that two divisions are combined to show, any points earned by

- a competitor will be counted towards the division in which he would have shown were the classes not combined.
- vi. Points may not be 'carried over' from one division to another.
  - vii. Points earned from Caribbean Equestrian Association (CEA) Events will carry a weighting of (x1.5) in point standing calculations. For example, the winner of a class of 6 competitors will be awarded  $10 \times 1.5 = 15$  points.
  - viii. Point earned in National Championship Classes will carry a double point weighting. For example, the winner in a class of 6 competitors will be awarded  $10 \times 2 = 20$  points.

## **A6. RIBBONS**

- a) The Show Committee should award ribbons up to 6<sup>th</sup> place whenever possible.
- b) In classes with 6 entries or more a minimum of 4 ribbons must be awarded. 1 extra ribbon should be awarded for each 3 entries thereafter.
- c) This excludes Gymkhana entries, where the number of ribbons awarded shall be left to the discretion of the Show Committee.
- d) For the purposes of scoring towards End of Year Awards, judges should place the top 6 competitors regardless of the number of ribbons offered.
- e) At all Rated shows the prize ribbons shall be the following colours:
  - a. Grand Champion – Blue, Red, Yellow, and White
  - b. Reserve Grand Champion – Red, Yellow, and White
  - c. Champion – Blue, Red, and Yellow
  - d. Reserve Champion – Red, Yellow, and White
  - e. Placing:
    - 1<sup>st</sup> – Blue
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Red
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> – Yellow
    - 4<sup>th</sup> – White
    - 5<sup>th</sup> – Pink
    - 6<sup>th</sup> – Green
    - 7<sup>th</sup> – Purple
    - 8<sup>th</sup> – Brown
    - 9<sup>th</sup> – Grey
    - 10<sup>th</sup> – Pale Blue
- f) At the discretion of the Show Committee, ribbons of a different colour may be awarded for special classes.

## **A7. PRIZE MONEY**

- a) Prize money may not be offered for any Equitation class, since under the rules covering international sport a competitor accepting money prizes thereby becomes a professional. In Equitation Classes the individual is the competitor and wins the award, whereas in other classes the horse is the competitor and

- wins the award.
- b)* Prize money may be offered in classes where the horse is considered to be the competitor (i.e. Hunters, Jumpers and Dressage)
  - c)* When prize money is offered for a class, the distribution of such prize money must be stated in the prize list, or a minimum of 24 hours in advance of the start of said class.

## **Part VI: Class Specifications**

### **CS1. RATED SHOWS**

- a) Class specifications for Equestrian Bahamas rated shows shall be as laid out in the Equestrian Bahamas Horse Show Class Specifications document.
- b) Class specifications for Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League shows shall be laid out in the BIEL Rule Book.
- c) Both documents in (a) and (b) may be subject to revision by the EB Competition Committee and with approval from the Executive Committee of Equestrian Bahamas.
- d) In any given year Class Specifications at Rated Shows and at Bahamas Interscholastic Equestrian League shows shall be governed by the most recent versions document outlining class specifications for that show type.

### **CS2. NON-RATED SHOWS**

- a) Show organizing committees may create their own class specifications for non-rated classes at non-rated shows, provided that such class specifications are in line with the general rules and regulations governing horse and rider welfare.