

RULES
OF
THE HONG KONG EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION
comprising
INTRODUCTION and DEFINITIONS,
GENERAL RULES
and
RULES FOR THE CONDUCT, JUDGING
AND MARKING
of
JUMPING,
DRESSAGE
and
EVENTING

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Based on the regulations of the Federation Equestre Internationale

SECTION I

INTRODUCTION AND DEFINITIONS

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SECTION I

INTRODUCTION AND DEFINITIONS

1. Preamble

These Rules are established so that athletes and teams of athletes may compete against each other under fair and equal conditions with the Welfare of Horse as paramount. It is not possible to provide for every conceivable eventuality in these Rules. If there is no rule to deal specifically with a particular circumstance, or if the nearest interpretation of the pertinent rule would result in an obvious injustice, it is the duty of those responsible to make a decision based on common sense and fair play, using all technical assistance.

2. Rules

These Rules have been drawn up in the broadest possible spirit to allow organisers of events as much freedom as possible in the preparation and management of their programmes.

3. Application of Rules

The Rules of the Hong Kong Equestrian Federation shall apply to all events held under the auspices of the Federation, other than international events, which must be held under the Rules of the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI).

4. Financial Responsibility and Public Liability

The Federation accepts no financial responsibility or public liability for events held under its auspices or under its rules.

5. Definitions

Terms used in these Rules are defined as follows:

HKEF : Hong Kong Equestrian Federation.

- Committee : The Executive Committee of the Hong Kong Equestrian Federation.
- Rules : The Rules of the Hong Kong Equestrian Federation.
- Member : Any member of the Hong Kong Equestrian Federation.
- Judge : A member of the Judges' panel appointed by the Hong Kong Equestrian Federation.
- Ground Jury : The Judge or Judges responsible for the judging of an event or a competition within an event.
- Organisers : The organiser or organising committee recognised by the HKEF and responsible for organising any equestrian event under HKEF or FEI rules.
- Horse : This includes stallion, mare, gelding & pony.
- Event : The term "event" includes a complete meeting, show, Eventing or concourse under the control of the organisers.
- Competition : The term "competition" refers to each individual class for which places and prizes are awarded.
- Discipline : The term "discipline" refers to the type of event or competition which includes Jumping, Dressage, Eventing, Para-Equestrian Dressage or any other which the Committee may decide.
- "Year" : The Federation's year commences on 1st September and ends on the 31st August, next following.

- "Showground" : The area in which the competition arenas, collecting ring, exercise areas, transport parks and stabling are situated.
- "Yellow Card" : This is a notice issued to an athlete under Rule 110.
- Hong Kong : Hong Kong SAR
- Prohibited Substance: Any substance currently listed under the FEI Veterinary Regulation, FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Medication Control Rules, FEI Anti-Doping Rules for Human Athletes, World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) List of Prohibited Substances and Methods and the Anti-Doping Rules of the Sports Federation & Olympic Committee of Hong Kong (SF&OC) as prohibited from being present in the blood or urine of horses and athletes entered or taking part in competition.
- FEI : Federation Equestre Internationale
- Hors Concours : "Out of Competition". An athlete allowed to enter a class HC will not be placed nor will the result be recorded in any way.

CODE OF CONDUCT

THE HKEF CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE

The HKEF requires all those involved in national and international equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the Horse must be paramount. Welfare of the horse must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences. The following points must be particularly adhered to:

1. General Welfare:

a) Good Horse management

Stabling and feeding must be compatible with the best Horse management practices. Clean and good quality hay, feed and water must always be available.

b) Training methods

Horses must only undergo training that matches their physical capabilities and level of maturity for their respective disciplines. They must not be subjected to methods which are abusive or cause fear.

c) Farriery and tack

Foot care and shoeing must be of a high standard. Tack must be designed and fitted to avoid the risk of pain or injury.

d) Transport

During transportation, Horses must be fully protected against injuries and other health risks. Vehicles must be safe, well ventilated, maintained to a high standard, disinfected regularly and driven by competent personnel. Competent handlers must always be available to manage the Horses.

e) Transit

All journeys must be planned carefully, and Horses allowed regular rest periods with access to food and water in line with current FEI guidelines.

2. Fitness to compete:

a) Fitness and competence

Participation in Competition must be restricted to fit Horses and Athletes of proven competence. Horses must be allowed suitable rest period between training and competitions; additional rest periods should be allowed following travelling.

b) Health status

No Horse deemed unfit to compete may compete or continue to compete, veterinary advice must be sought whenever there is any doubt.

c) Doping and Medication

Any action or intent of doping and illicit use of medication constitute a serious welfare issue and will not be tolerated. After any veterinary treatment, sufficient time must be allowed for full recovery before Competition.

d) Surgical procedures

Any surgical procedures that threaten a competing Horse's welfare or the safety of other Horses and/or Athletes must not be allowed.

e) Pregnant/recently foaled mares

Mares must not compete after their fourth month of pregnancy or with foal at foot.

f) Misuse of aids

Abuse of a Horse using natural riding aids or artificial aids (e.g. whips, spurs, etc.) will not be tolerated.

3. Events must not prejudice Horse welfare:

a) Competition areas

Horses must be trained and compete on suitable and safe surfaces. All obstacles and competition conditions must be designed with the safety of the Horse in mind.

b) Ground surfaces

All ground surfaces on which Horses walk, train or compete must be designed and maintained to reduce factors that could lead to injury.

c) Extreme weather

Competitions must not take place in extreme weather conditions that may compromise welfare or safety of the Horse. Provision must be made for cooling conditions and equipment for Horses after competing.

d) Stabling at Events

Stables must be safe, hygienic, comfortable, well ventilated and of sufficient size for the type and disposition of the Horse. Washing-down areas and water must always be available.

4. Humane treatment of horses:

a) Veterinary treatment

Veterinary expertise must always be available at an Event. If a Horse is injured or exhausted during a Competition, the Athlete must stop competing and a veterinary evaluation must be performed.

b) Referral centres

Wherever necessary, Horses should be collected by ambulance and transported to the nearest relevant treatment centre for further assessment and therapy. Injured Horses must be given full supportive treatment before being transported.

c) Competition injuries

The incidence of injuries sustained in Competition should be monitored. Ground surface conditions, frequency of Competitions and any other risk factors should be examined carefully to indicate ways to minimise injuries.

d) Euthanasia

If injuries are sufficiently severe a Horse may need to be euthanised on humane grounds by a veterinarian as soon as possible, with the sole aim of minimising suffering.

e) Retirement

Horses must be treated sympathetically and humanely when they retire from Competition.

5. Education:

The HKEF urges all those involved in equestrian sport to attain the highest possible levels of education in areas of expertise relevant to the care and management of the Competition Horse.

This Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse may be modified from time to time and the views of all are welcomed. Particular attention will be paid to new research findings and the HKEF encourages further funding and support for welfare studies.

SECTION II

GENERAL RULES

Applicable to all Disciplines

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SECTION II
GENERAL RULES - APPLICABLE TO ALL DISCIPLINES

CHAPTER I - MISCELLANEOUS

Article 100 COMMITTEE POWERS

1. Notwithstanding anything stipulated or omitted in these Rules, the Committee shall have full and complete power to omit amend and interpret these Rules in their absolute discretion and to give or to withhold any explanation of their decisions.
2. The Committee shall in particular be empowered to direct the organisers to refuse any entry with or without stating reasons; they shall be the sole judges of the qualification of any horse or athlete to compete in any particular class and may, in their discretion, transfer any entry of any such horse or athlete to any lower or higher ranking class.

Article 101 UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

1. Every eventuality cannot be provided for in these Rules. In any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the Ground Jury to make a decision in a sporting spirit and approaching as nearly as possible to the intention of these Rules. If the Ground Jury is in doubt it should favour the athlete in question.

CHAPTER II - JUDGES AND OFFICIALS

Article 102 JUDGES

1. The Committee shall appoint a panel from amongst the members of the Federation to act as judges for Jumping, Dressage and Para-Equestrian Dressage, and officials for Eventing competitions.
 - 1.1 Judges shall be appointed and promoted at the sole discretion of the Committee upon the recommendation of the Rules sub-committee.
 - 1.2 The Committee shall publish at least once at the beginning of each year a list of current judges and officials, and shall be empowered to re-appoint or remove any person on the list.
 - 1.3 The Committee shall appoint a Senior Judge and / or Deputy Senior Judge for each discipline from amongst the judges in that discipline upon the recommendation of the Rules Sub-committee.
 - 1.4 By accepting appointment judges become officials of the Federation and as such are required to follow a code of conduct :
 - (i) To uphold the fairness and integrity of the Rules.
 - (ii) To ensure that competition is conducted and judged in a fair and objective manner in the best interests of the horse, the athletes, and the sport.
 - (iii) To advise the Committee of any membership or official status in any other equestrian federation.
 - (iv) To advise the Committee of all overseas invitations to participate in training or judging.
 - 1.5 The Senior Judge and / or Deputy Senior Judge in a discipline is responsible for :
 - 1.5.1 Recommendation to the Rules Sub-committee (102.1.1) of suitable candidates for consideration as future judges.
 - 1.5.2 Local training and assessment of candidate and qualified judges.
 - 1.5.3 Recommending a program of training and assessment at home or overseas by external experts.
 - 1.5.4 Appointment or promotion may only be recommended subsequent to the candidate achieving a suitable level of theoretical knowledge and

practical experience and being recommended as suitable by the Senior and / or Deputy Senior Discipline Judge or by a visiting assessing Judge appointed by the Committee.

2. Jumping competitions, including the Jumping phase of Eventing, will be judged by a Ground Jury of at least two Judges drawn from the HKEF's panel of Judges which may include a visiting judge as approved by the Senior or Deputy Senior Judge of that discipline.
3. Dressage competitions, including the Dressage phase of Eventing and Para-Equestrian Dressage, will be judged by at least one Judge drawn from the Federation's panel of Judges which may include a visiting judge as approved by the Senior Judge of that discipline.

Article 103 JUMPING COURSE DESIGNERS

1. The Committee shall appoint persons to act as Course Designers in Jumping Competitions. Appointment as an approved Course Designer shall be at the sole discretion of the Committee, and upon such recommendation of the Rules Subcommittee and with such qualifications as the Committee shall in each case require.
2. At least once at the beginning of each year the Committee shall publish a list of approved Course Designers, and shall be empowered to re-appoint or remove any person on the list. Organisers may appoint only those persons on the approved list as Course Designers for their events or must use courses by recognized Course Designers registered with the HKEF or the FEI.
3. No athlete in a class may have sight of any course plan for that class before it is exhibited in the Collecting Arena.

Article 104 EVENTING DELEGATE

1. The Committee may appoint an Eventing Delegate for an event to act as the representative of the HKEF, whose powers, duties and responsibilities are as follows:
 - 1.1 To inspect the course, arena and practice area and satisfy himself that these areas meet the requirements of the Rules and that the course is fair to all athletes;
 - 1.2 To continue to supervise the technical conduct of the event after he has indicated to the judge that he is satisfied with the arrangements;
 - 1.3 To instruct the organiser or the course designer, as appropriate, to make any alterations to the course and any other matters which come under his jurisdiction, which he considers necessary to conform to the rules of the

- competition or in the interests of safety;
- 1.4 If there is no Eventing Delegate, the President of the Ground Jury of the competition has the powers and duties listed in this Rule.

Article 105 APPOINTMENT OF EVENTING DELEGATES

1. The Committee shall with recommendation of the Rules subcommittee to appoint the Eventing Delegates from the panel of the Judge or person with expertise of relevant discipline.

Article 106 STEWARDS

1. It is the responsibility of the organisers to appoint a Chief Steward, from HKEF's panel of Stewards, and an appropriate number of Stewards under the authority of the Chief Steward with complete freedom of access to all areas of the Showground.
2. During the whole Event in every part of the stables, in exercise and schooling areas, collecting rings and all other areas under control of the Organizer, the Chief Steward and the Stewards officiating with him at the Event shall:
- (i) assist the Athletes in conducting reasonable training;
 - (ii) intervene in time in order to prevent any abuse of horse by athletes, grooms, owners or any other person;
 - (iii) intervene in order to prevent any contravention of the Rules or of the common principles of behaviour, fairness and accepted standards of sportsmanship;
 - (iv) be familiar and assist with doping and medication control procedures.
3. One Steward must be on duty in each warm-up arena whenever it is in use.
4. Any irregularities must be reported immediately by the Chief Steward to the President of the Ground Jury.
5. The Chief Steward must be a person experienced in equestrian sports, particularly in the Discipline of the Event where he is appointed to officiate. Chief Stewards shall be appointed and promoted at the sole discretion of the Committee upon the recommendation of the Rules sub-committee
6. The Committee shall publish at least once at the beginning of each year a list of current Stewards, and shall be empowered to re-appoint or remove any person on the list.

Article 107 WATER JUMP JUDGES

1. If a water jump is included in the course a Judge must be appointed to be the water jump judge. The water jump judge must stand or sit in direct line with the landing edge of the water when judging this obstacle and signal an infringement by waving a red flag. He may not judge this obstacle from the Judges' box.

Article 108 FENCE JUDGES

1. In the Cross-Country phase of an Eventing competition, fence judges must be appointed by the organisers for all obstacles forming part of the course. One fence judge may take charge of more than one obstacle provided that each obstacle is clearly visible to him and he is in a position to maintain adequate control.

Article 109 STATUS AND LIABILITY OF HKEF OFFICIALS

1. Any HKEF Official may be removed from a list or from an Event or demoted by HKEF. This paragraph confers no power of removal on the OC of an Event. In addition, the HKEF Secretary General may provisionally suspend any Official and/or not accept the appointment of any Official in the event there is reasonable cause to believe that any Official has failed to observe the HKEF or applicable FEI Rules and Regulations.
2. Any proposal to take action under paragraph 1 must be reported to the HKEF Rules Subcommittee and approved by HKEF Executive Committee.
3. The HKEF Secretary General shall notify in writing any person whom it is proposed to remove and that person may make oral and/or written representations against the proposal for consideration by HKEF.
4. All Officials acting at or in relation to National and International Event are acting on behalf of the HKEF and therefore are not liable financially or otherwise for any acts, omissions or Decisions undertaken in good faith in connection with their duties.
5. All HKEF Officials acknowledge and confirm that they will provide their contact details to the HKEF and that such details may be shared with relevant third-parties, such as FEI stakeholders.
6. In the context of betting, Officials must not, by any manner whatsoever, infringe the principle of fair play, show non-sporting conduct, or attempt to influence the result of a Competition in a manner contrary to sporting ethics. Any violations of the above will be subject to the decision of the HKEF Executive Committee.
7. Officials are bound by all HKEF and FEI Rules while officiating and/or representing the HKEF.

CHAPTER III - ATHLETES

Article 110 CONDUCT

1. No athlete at an event shall:
 - 1.1 Argue, use abusive or threatening language, or behave with incivility or contempt towards Judges, show officials, other athletes or spectators;
 - 1.2 Conduct himself or herself in a manner which is offensive to the public or detrimental to the character or prejudicial to the interests of the Federation;
 - 1.3 Ill-treat a horse in any way whether inside or outside the arena;
 - 1.4 Misuse or use excessively, in the Ground Jury's opinion, a whip or spur;
 - 1.5 Jump or attempt to jump any obstacle in the competition arena at a show except when actually taking part in a competition or with special permission from the Ground Jury;
 - 1.6 Allow a horse to be rapped, or jump a pole or obstacle that is held by hand, in the collecting ring or anywhere on or in the vicinity of the show ground;
 - 1.7 Make, either orally or in writing, to an officer of the Federation, an official, or the organiser, a statement on any matter covered by the Rules that he knows to be untrue;
 - 1.8 Compete (except H.C.) in a competition for which the horse or the athlete are not fully eligible;
 - 1.9 Fail to start in a competition without having officially withdrawn or, having started in a competition, withdraw without the permission of the Judge, or wilfully incur elimination in the opinion of the Ground Jury;
 - 1.10 Use unseemly, abusive or offensive language;
 - 1.11 Unreasonably refuse to assist the Committee at any enquiry.
2. An athlete who commits a breach of any part of this rule shall be deemed to be guilty of unseemly conduct, and in respect of a breach of sub-paragraphs 1.1 to 1.10 may be eliminated from the competition or event, and/or issued with a Yellow Warning Card by the most Senior Judge officiating in dressage or the President of the Ground Jury in Jumping and Eventing. An athlete who accumulates 2 Warning Cards across all disciplines in any 12 calendar month period shall be subject to enquiry by the committee under rule 111.

Article 111 ENQUIRY BY COMMITTEE

1. The Committee shall have the power to consider the conduct of any athlete (whether or not an objection has been lodged or report made to the Committee) and where in the opinion of the Committee a athlete has been guilty of unseemly conduct may in its sole discretion direct any one or more of the following and subject to such conditions as they may see fit to impose:
 - 1.1 that any such athlete who is a member shall be suspended from all or any of the rights and privileges of membership for a period or indefinitely; and that any athlete who is not a member may not apply for membership for a period not exceeding three years;
 - 1.2 that such athlete shall be debarred for a period or indefinitely from competing, or in any way taking part or entering any horse in a competition at an event;
 - 1.3 that such athlete shall be given a reprimand; or
 - 1.4 that any horse belonging to or being ridden by such athlete at the time of the unseemly conduct shall be debarred from being entered, jumped, shown, or otherwise taking part in any competition at an event for a period or indefinitely.
2. Any member who is suspended pursuant to the Rules shall not, during the period of suspension, be eligible to serve as a member of the Committee, or be appointed as a Judge for any competition.
3. No entry for a competition may be accepted by the organisers in respect of any member or athlete who has been suspended or any horse which has been debarred for a specified period pursuant to these Rules, and any entry accepted in contravention of these Rules shall be void.
4. The powers provided under these Rules are in addition and without prejudice to the powers of expulsion from membership of the Federation conferred upon the Committee by the Federation's Memorandum and Article of Association.
5. No member or athlete shall be entitled to, but may with the leave of the Committee, be represented when appearing before the Committee.







Article 112 SALUTING

1. In all Competitions that take place in an arena under the jurisdiction of a Ground Jury, each athlete must salute the President of the Ground Jury as a matter of courtesy, unless the President gives other instructions. The Organiser in agreement with the President of the Ground Jury may instruct the athletes to salute special guests or sponsors.

2. The President or a member of the Jury shall acknowledge all salutes.

Article 113 DRESS

1. Athletes must be appropriately dressed according to the discipline when appearing before spectators (see Rules for Jumping, Dressage and Eventing). If athletes are not properly dressed, in the opinion of the Ground Jury, they may refuse to allow them to compete.
2. It is the duty of athletes in the interests of their own safety to ensure that their headgear provides proper protection, is correctly fitted and remains in place. It is compulsory for anyone mounted on a horse at a showground to wear appropriate headgear meeting one of the following standards:

- PAS015 (1998 or 2011) with BSI Kitemark  or Inspec IC Mark  ;
- VG1 01.040 (2014-12) with BSI Kitemark  or Inspec IC Mark  ;
- ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards) with SEI mark  ;
- SNELL E2001 or E2016 with official SNELL label and number  ;
- AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards) with SAI Global Mark  ;

The chinstrap must be fastened at all times when mounted.

3. When show organizers issue athletes bridle numbers the correct numbers must be worn at a place that is clearly visible when taking part in competitions.
4. Athletes are required to parade mounted and properly dressed to receive their awards unless otherwise agreed by the Ground Jury. Failure to do so may incur disqualification.
5. Athletes or their horses carrying or wearing any form of advertising material while in the arena must conform to Article 135 of the FEI General Regulations.

Article 114 FORMS OF DRESS

1. Dressage: Black headgear conforming to Rule 113.2, hunting or hacking jacket,

cream, beige or white jodhpurs, stock or tie, white shirt, gloves and, long boots or boots with matching chaps are compulsory except where otherwise specified in the show schedule. The Show Director may allow the athletes to compete without a jacket except in a championship.

2. Jumping: Headgear conforming to Rule 113.2; cream, beige, or white breeches; stock or tie; shirt with white collar and long boots or boots with matching chaps are compulsory except where otherwise specified in the show schedule. Where the show schedule specifies that a hunting or hacking jacket is required this must be worn with a stock or tie and a collared shirt. The show schedule may specify that a solid colour polo shirt with collar and sleeves be worn for the competition.
3. Eventing: For the dressage and jumping phases, rules 114.1 and 114.2 apply. In the cross-country phases, a body-protector and long boots or boots with matching chaps are compulsory. A long-sleeved rugby shirt may be worn

Article 115 WHIPS

1. No athlete may use, or permit to be used, on or in the vicinity of the showground, a whip that is weighted at the end.
2. Whips must have a form of protection to prevent the end of the whip from injuring the horse.
3. No substitute for a whip may be carried on or in the vicinity of the showground.
4. In Dressage competitions whips may be carried in competitions subject to the relevant Dressage Rules.
5. In jumping competitions, and in the jumping or cross country phase of Eventing, including in the warm-up and collecting rings, no whip exceeding 75 cm in length overall may be carried, except when the horse is being exercised on the flat (see also Rule 257).
6. If in the opinion of the Ground Jury, an athlete misuses a whip in a competition, he may be eliminated and/or subject to disciplinary action pursuant to Rule 110.1.4.

Article 116 SPURS

1. Spurs are permitted in all competitions subject to the Rules of the relevant discipline.
 - For Show Jumping, please kindly refer to the latest FEI Show Jumping Rules at <https://inside.fei.org/fei/regulations/jumping>
 - For Dressage, please refer to the HKEF Dressage Rules Art 330.4
 - For Eventing, please refer to the HKEF Eventing Rules Art 411.5

Article 117 SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT

1. Saddlery and equipment must conform to these General Rules and to the Rules of the relevant discipline.
2. Blinkers are prohibited in all competitions.
3. The use of wire, string, twine or cord in or around a horse's mouth is forbidden.
4. No item of saddlery or equipment may be used in such a manner as to abuse the horse in the opinion of the Ground Jury.
5. Stirrup leathers and irons are compulsory (unless there is a special dispensation) and must be attached to the saddle and used in the conventional way. The athlete's boot must not be fixed to the stirrup iron by mechanical means and if used without dispensation will result in elimination
6. Saddle cloths bearing the Hong Kong SAR logo/flag may only be worn by a competition who is officially representing Hong Kong SAR at an Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Asian Games, Asian Championship, World Equestrian Games, FEI approved International competitions and or competition approved by Hong Kong Equestrian Federation.

Article 118 PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

1. No athlete may represent Hong Kong SAR in an official international event (CIOs) unless entered by the HKEF.
2. Authorization to participate in an international event does not indicate that the athlete is representing Hong Kong.

Article 119 CHEF d'EQUIPE

1. The Chef D'Equipe or Team Manager, or his duly authorised Deputy, in charge of a team participating in an international event, training course, team visit or tour (whether taking place in Hong Kong or in another country) shall be entitled in his discretion to regulate, control, take cognisance of and adjudicate upon the conduct of team members and may suspend a team member from competing or taking part in any competition or other activity taking place during such international event, training course, team visit or tour.

CHAPTER IV - ABUSE

Article 120 ABUSE

1. Abuse of horses is forbidden and is regarded by the Federation with the utmost seriousness.
2. Abuse can be defined as intentionally causing pain or unnecessary discomfort to a horse. An act of cruelty includes but is not limited to the following:
 - 2.1 To whip or beat a horse excessively
 - 2.2 To subject a horse to any kind of electric shock device
 - 2.3 To use spurs, or to jab the horse in the mouth with the bit, excessively or persistently
 - 2.4 to remount or attempt to remount, an obviously exhausted, lame or injured horse
 - 2.5 to "rap" a horse anywhere in or outside the grounds of the event
 - 2.6 To hypersensitise any part of a horse
 - 2.7 To leave a horse without adequate food, drink or exercise.
 - 2.8 To use any device or equipment which causes excessive pain to the Horse upon knocking down an obstacle
3. Any such incident and any other case of abuse must be reported immediately to the Ground Jury (if the incident occurs during the period of jurisdiction of the Ground Jury) or the Chief Steward (if the incident occurs at any other time during the event).
4. Officials or any other person, reporting a case of abuse should, if possible, secure one or more witnesses that have seen the incident, or any other form of evidence, and either bring them to the Committee to which the report is addressed, or obtain written statements from them, duly signed, together with their names and addresses.
5. Cases of abuse reported after the end of an event should be addressed to the Secretary General for the attention of the Executive Committee.
6. Any athlete found guilty of committing a definite act of abuse at the sole decision of the Committee will be liable to severe penalties including expulsion from the Federation and disqualification for life from participation in equestrian competitions.

Article 121 DOPING

1. Athletes are forbidden to take any Prohibited Substances that has the effect of prejudicing or improving their performance. Infringement of this Rule may incur a maximum penalty of disqualification for life and expulsion from the Federation.
2. It is prohibited under penalty of disqualification for a horse to compete having been administered with any Prohibited Substances. Any member who competes on a horse which is prohibited from competition under this rule, and any person (other than a qualified veterinary surgeon) who has supplied or administered a prohibited substance knowing or having reason to believe that the horse is to be competed in contravention of this rule, shall be subject to disciplinary action under Rule 111 – Enquiry by the Committee.
3. A Ground Jury may require the sampling by a veterinary surgeon of any horse entered in a competition or within one hour of the end of the competition. If the result of the analysis of the sample indicates the presence of a prohibited substance the matter shall be referred to the Committee.
4. FEI Article 143 General Regulations and the FEI Veterinary Regulations are applicable.

CHAPTER V - OBJECTIONS

Article 122 SUBMISSION OF OBJECTIONS

1. An objection must be addressed to the Ground Jury and be accompanied by a deposit of \$500. Such deposit will be refunded if the objection is upheld, otherwise it will be payable to the Federation.
2. An objection does not include a representation or request made to the Ground Jury or other officials of the event, before the commencement of a competition, regarding the clarification of the rules of the competition or the course to be followed.
3. An objection may only be made by:
 - 3.1 An adult athlete who is taking part in the competition.
 - 3.2 The Chef d'Equipe or authorised representative of the Riding Establishment concerned on behalf of a junior athlete taking part in the competition.
 - 3.3 An official of the event or a Committee Member of the Federation.

Article 123 TIME LIMIT

1. An objection must be lodged within the following time limits:
 - 1.1 Concerning the eligibility of any athlete or horse - not less than 10 minutes before the commencement of the competition.
 - 1.2 Concerning the course, obstacles, plan or anything related to the manner in which the competition is to be conducted - not less than 10 minutes before the commencement of the competition.
 - 1.3 Concerning any incident or decision arising during the competition - not later than 20 minutes after the announcement of the results, and, in the case of dressage, not later than 20 minutes after the signed judges sheets are made available to athletes.

Article 124 APPEAL

1. The Organisers of an Event shall nominate a Judge from the approved list of Judges for that discipline to act as President of an Appeals Committee. If an appeal is lodged, the President of the Appeals Committee will call upon another two Judges to form an Appeals Committee. The decision of the Appeals Committee is

final. In coming to a decision, the Appeals Committee and/or Ground Jury may use all technical assistance available including official video-recordings (an official video recording is considered to be a recording made by a TV network or a video company hired by the organising committee) thus reflecting as closely as possible the intention of these Rules.

Article 125 REFERRAL TO COMMITTEE

1. The foregoing shall not prevent any matter being drawn to the attention of the Committee of the Federation for any action the Committee may deem appropriate.

CHAPTER VI - HORSES

Article 126 REGISTRATION

Under review

Article 127 TYPES OF COMPETITION

- 1 Graded Classes –Open to all HKEF members only, unless restricted by the published schedule.
- 2 Ungrade Classes – Open to all riders.

Article 128 GRADING - GENERAL

Under review

Article 129 GRADING OF HORSES FOR DRESSAGE

- 1 With the new grading system, each rider and horse combination is allocated to different eligible test levels.

Rider/horse combination may compete at levels higher than their graded level, however that combination may only compete at levels lower than their graded level by competing “HC” (Out of competition).

Each competitor can check with his or her [eligible test level & accumulated grading points](#) from last show season on HKEF website.

Article 130 GRADING OF HORSES FOR JUMPING

- 1 TBA

Article 131 GRADING FOR EVENTING

- 1 TBA

CHAPTER VII - GENERAL RULES FOR COMPETITIONS **(to be read in conjunction with the Rules for each discipline)**

Article 132 RECOGNITION

1. No competition shall be recognised by the Federation unless judged under HKEF Rules, or in the case of International competitions, under the Rules of the FEI. Such competitions are termed Graded Events.
2. For all Graded Events, a draft schedule must be submitted by the Organiser to the HKEF for approval no later than 14 days before the first competition day of the Event.

Article 133 ENTRIES

1. Organisers will make appropriate arrangements to invite entries for each competition included in the schedule of the Competition. The individual athlete must ensure that both he/she and his/her horse are eligible for each competition entered. Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the organisers, in the case of late entries submitted less than 1 hour before the competition, in consultation with the Ground Jury. Late entries will start first.
2. Rule deleted.
3. A complete list of athletes and horses, including late entries and any changes in the published programme, must be supplied to the Ground Jury ten minutes before the start of the competition.
4. Organisers may in their discretion permit an athlete or horse eligible for the competition to be substituted for an athlete or horse already entered in the competition. However no horse that is already entered in a competition may be substituted for another horse in the same competition. It is the responsibility of the organisers to make sure that the Judge has been notified of the substitution.
5. Except when the rules of the competition provide otherwise, no athlete may ride more than two horses in the same competition.

Article 134 VETERINARY EXAMINATION

1. Horses entered for competitions may be required by the Ground Jury or organisers to undergo a veterinary examination by the attending veterinarian before being allowed to compete.

Article 135 ROSETTES

1. In all competitions rosettes will be awarded to at least 25% of the number of starters.
2. Rule deleted.
3. Participation in the Prize-giving Ceremony of placed athlete/horse combinations is compulsory. Failure to do so without seeking prior permission from the Ground Jury may entail the athlete losing the trophy/prize and prize money. [Refer to jumping rule 248].

Article 136 HORS CONCOURS (OUT OF COMPETITION)

1. The organizers of Events have full direction in the application of Hors Concours in graded competitions. This means that horses can be entered as H.C. for any reason acceptable to the Organisers subject to the guide lines below:
 - 1.1 Deleted.
 - 1.2 The athlete must be a member of the Federation and otherwise eligible to ride in the competition.
 - 1.3 During an Event the horse/ athlete combination must be entered H.C. in any further graded competitions over the same course in jumping in which it is entered subsequent to the first one in which it competes H.C.
2. If Dressage and jumping are held as separate competitions within an Event a horse may be entered in one discipline as H.C. and the other in full competition regardless of which discipline comes first.
3.
 - 3.1 Horses must be nominated as H.C. on the ENTRY FORM.
 - 3.2 The acceptance of H.C. entries is totally at the discretion of the Organisers.
 - 3.3 H.C. entries have a lower priority than all other entries and may be declined if there is a high level of full entries.
 - 3.4 Horses accepted for H.C. will usually go first in the running order but after any Late Entries except where an athlete has two horses in the same class in which case the horse in competition will always go before the horse which is H.C.

Article 137 ORGANISERS

1. Organisers of Graded Events must publish the Approved Schedule before entries

are accepted.

2. The Organisers of Graded Events must supply to the Secretary General of the Federation within 2 days of completion of the event, for each competition the following:

2.1 A list of all starters

2.2 A list of all placings on the Federation's standard report form and signed by the Judges of the competition.

2.3 Official List