

ENDURANCE NEW ZEALAND

Competitive Trail Riding Rules



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These Rules pertain to Competitive Trail Riding within New Zealand.

The Competitive Trail Riding Rules MUST be read in conjunction with the FEI Veterinary Regulations, General Regulations, the Equestrian Sports NZ General Regulations and Constitution, and the Endurance New Zealand By-laws.

Complete sets of these rules are available from:

Endurance Sport Manager
Equestrian Sports NZ
P O Box 6146
Wellington

This issue of the Competitive Trail Riding supersedes all other texts covering the same matter.

Every eventuality cannot be provided for in the rules. In unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the Ground Jury, the Technical Delegate and the Veterinarians to make a decision, in a sporting spirit and approaching as nearly as possible to the intention of these Discipline Rules and the ESNZ General Regulations.

Code of Conduct for Horse Welfare

- The FEI expects all those involved in international equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI's Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the horse must be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.
- At all stages during the preparation and training of competition horses, welfare must take precedence over all other demands. This includes good horse management, training, methods, farriery and tack, and transportation.
- Horses and competitors must be fit, competent and in good health before they are allowed to compete. This encompasses medication use, surgical procedures that threaten welfare or safety, pregnancy in mares and the misuse of aids.
- Events must not prejudice horse welfare. This involves paying careful attention to the competition areas, ground surfaces, weather conditions, stabling, site safety and fitness of the horse for onward travel after the event.
- Every effort must be made to ensure that horses receive proper attention after they have competed and that they are treated humanely when their competition careers are over. This covers proper veterinary care, competition injuries, euthanasia and retirement.
- The FEI urges all involved with the sport to attain the highest levels of education in their areas of expertise.
- Endurance NZ expects all its members to abide by this Code of Conduct.

Definitions

Affiliated Club	is a club entitled to run events approved by EnNZ.
Board	means the Board Members of EnNZ.
Bpm	is Heart Beats per Minute.
Championship rides	refer to the North Island, South Island & National Championship rides.
Class	is each division within a Ride.
CTR	refers to Competitive Trail Riding.
Day Membership	is membership of ESNZ for one day only.
Day Vet Card	is the Card given to unregistered horses at rides.
EnNZ	refers to Endurance New Zealand.
ESNZ	refers to Equestrian sports New Zealand Incorporated.
Event	is a complete meeting.
FEI	refers to Federation Equestre Internationale.
Mandatory Rest Report	a horse eliminated for metabolic reasons which require immediate. invasive
OC	is the Organising Committee of the Ride.
Points Ride	refers to a Competitive Ride.
Ride	is a set distance within an event.

Competitive Trail Riding Rules

1.1. Introduction:

This is a scored event.

The horse must be presented to the Vet before and after the ride where the heart rate is taken and the horse trotted out in hand to assess soundness.

To qualify, horse and rider must finish the complete course within the specified time and pass the veterinary criteria.

1.2. Objectives:

To demonstrate the rider's ability to complete the course as close to the set time as possible, and to prove the horse's fitness to be able to accomplish this by finishing in sound condition with good recovery heart rates.

1.3. Riding Season:

The riding season starts on the 1st August and finishes on the 31st July.

1.4. Ride & Class Classification

1.4.1. Ride Classification:

1.4.1.a Points Ride:

- Minimum Classes - Open, Intermediate and Junior classes.
- Novice Classes are optional.
- Successful completions qualify horses and riders for National and Island Championships providing the championship qualifying criteria is met.
- Championship Rides are Points rides.

1.4.1.b Training Ride:

- Open, Intermediate, Junior and Novice classes can be held.
- Successful completion awards only
- No placings or prizes in cash or kind.

1.4.2. Class Divisions:

Only the following classes may be held at both Points and Training Rides.

1.4.2.a Open Class:

Distance : One Day ride: 15km – 75km
: Two Day Ride: 15km – 120km, maximum distance per day is 60km
Speed : Maximum 12kph
: Horses must be registered with ESNZ
: Horses must be at least 5 years.
: Riders must be a financial member of ESNZ & an Affiliated Club

1.4.2.b. Intermediate Class:

Distance : One Day ride: 15km – 40km
: Two Day ride: 15km – 79km, maximum distance per day is 40km
Speed : Maximum 10kph
Eligibility : Horses must be registered with ESNZ
: Horses must be at least 4 years.
: Riders must be a financial member of ESNZ & an Affiliated Club

1.4.2.c. Junior Class:

- Distance : One Day ride: 15km – 40km
: Two Day ride: 15km – 79km, maximum distance per day is 40km
- Speed : Maximum 10kph
- Eligibility : Horses must be registered with ESNZ
: Horses must be at least 4 years.
: Riders: - Under the age of 18 on 1st August in any one year.
: Riders must be a financial member of ESNZ & an Affiliated Club

1.4.2.d. Novice Class:

- Distance : Maximum 40km
- Speed : Maximum 8kph
- Eligibility : All horses and riders
: Unregistered horses and riders not credited with kilometres.
: Three Ride Rule applies Refer Rule 1.5.1
: No Placings. Successful Completion awards only.
: At points rides unregistered riders need a Non-Graded Day Membership
: Horses must be at least 4 years

1.5 Registration:

1.5.1. Claiming Kilometres – Three Ride Rule

A maximum of 3 rides can be claimed retrospectively. These rides must have been done within the previous 24 months of the date of registration with ESNZ. Day Vet Cards must be sent to EnNZ at time of registration.

1.5.2 Horse Registration :

- CTR horses are registered with ESNZ as Training Horses.
- Current ESNZ horse registration is required to:
 - Enter Open, Intermediate & Junior classes at all events.
 - Be credited with kilometres.
 - Be eligible for National Awards & Roll of Honour.
- Horses only receive a Vetbook upon registration with ESNZ.
- Registered horses must be entered in the ride under their registered name as printed on the sticker in their Vetbook
- Horses do not have to be registered to compete in the Novice class.
- Registration sticker showing expiry date of registration must be affixed to the Vetbook
If no current ESNZ registration sticker shown then the horse must be entered in the Novice class. No kilometres will be awarded but they can be claimed under the Three Ride Rule.

1.5.3. Rider Registration:

- CTR riders are registered with ESNZ as Senior Training Competitors or Junior Competitors.
- Current financial membership of ESNZ and an Affiliated Club is required to:
 - Enter Open, Intermediate & Junior classes at all events.
 - Be credited with kilometres.
 - Be eligible for National Awards.
- Riders do not have to be registered with ESNZ to compete in the Novice class but if it is a Points ride they must purchase a Non-Graded Day Membership

1.5.4. Day Membership –applies to riders at Points Rides

- Every rider is required to either be a current financial member of ESNZ or to purchase a Day Membership.
- Unregistered riders - must purchase a Non-Graded Day Membership and may only enter the Novice class.
- Registered Riders - must have a current ESNZ membership card that shows their EnNZ Rider Grade. Registered riders without their ESNZ membership card at the event classes must compete on a Day Membership and confirm their ESNZ membership number to the ride secretary within three days of the completion of the event otherwise no kilometres will be awarded
- A Day Membership fee is paid per day of competition.
- Riders cannot ride in a National or Island Championship class on a Day Membership.
- Day Memberships can be purchased from the Club Secretary on the day of the ride or from the National office in advance. A Day Membership is required for each day of competition. Riders can participate in Novice CTR events indefinitely on a Day Membership.

1.5.5 Cross Crediting of Kilometres

- Kilometres earned at two CTR Points and/or Championship rides may be cross credited to help fulfil the Novice 200km requirement to be eligible to enter Novice endurance rides of 40-79km.
- To enable the two CTR rides to be cross credited to endurance the following must apply:
 - A qualified veterinarian must have conducted the post ride vetting.
 - The minimum distance for the CTR rides must be 40km.
- If an owner or wishes to cross credit kilometres copies of the relevant Day Vet Cards and Qualification Certificates must be sent to EnNZ.

1.6. Horse Rules

1.6.1 Age & Classification of Horses:

- Horses are deemed to have their birthday on the 1st August.
Four year old horses may enter classes up to 39km.
Five year old horses may enter classes up to 90km.
- On rides of two or more days the maximum distance for four year old horses is limited to 20km per day.
- Pregnant mares, obviously in advanced pregnancy, (meaning over 120 days) or with foal at foot cannot be entered in any ride.

1.6.2 Stallions:

At all times, at all events stallions must:

- a) Wear a minimum of two ESNZ approved Stallion tags – one on each side of halter or bridle. Tags are available from ESNZ.
- b) Wear a Blue Ribbon, clearly visible from behind.
- c) Not be tied up unattended unless in an approved solid yards.
- d) When unattended be contained in an approved solid yard – not electric fence tape.
- e) Have a “STALLION” sign on the yard. The sign must also display the name and contact details (including cell phone number) for the rider or person responsible for the stallion during the event
- f) Stallions when led must be controlled by a bit attached to a lead, or chain over the nose attached to a lead. An attendant must have suitable experience in handling stallions.
- g) Riders and handlers of stallions must be a minimum of 18 years of age.

- h) Before arriving at an event the rider/owner of a stallion must advise the OC they are bringing a stallion, and if they don't have their own suitable yard, ascertain that suitable facilities are available.

1.6.3..Shoeing:

It is optional for horses to be shod.

If the OC feels a track may be unsuitable for a barefoot horse this is to be advertised on the Ride Schedule/Flyer.

1.6.4 Heart Rates:

- For all CTR rides less than 80km the horse's heart rate must return to 60 beats per minute or less within 30 minutes at all vet checks.
- For all CTR rides 80km and over the horse's heart rate must return to 64 beats per minute or less within 30 minutes at all vet checks.

1.6.5 Disqualification, Withdrawal & Elimination

- **Disqualification:** Occurs when a competitor is penalized by the GJ and removed from further competition for a violation of these Rules, the FEI General Regulations, the FEI Veterinary Regulations or the Schedule.
- **Elimination:** Results when a competitor is removed from competition for failure to successfully pass a veterinary examination, to complete the full course as required, or to meet all time requirements for presentation or completion.
- **Retirement:** Results when a competitor voluntarily withdraws from competition, but may only be considered voluntary and a Retirement when: the competitor has correctly finished all phases to that point; the competitor has completed its most recent phase by passing all required veterinary exams following that phase, including compulsory re-examination or veterinary requested re-examination; and has not otherwise provided for removal from competition.
- All horses removed from competition, voluntarily or otherwise and at any point within the event, must be presented for veterinary inspection within 30 minutes of removal. If removal occurs on course the horse must be inspected by a member of the veterinarian panel as soon as it is returned to the ride base and the horse's veterinary records updated accordingly.

1.6.6 Control of Horses:

At all times at all events horses must:

- Be under the control of the person responsible.
- Not be allowed to roam free.

1.6.7 Vet Treatment During & After Competition:

- No veterinary treatment may be administered to a horse during the competition without the written approval of the Veterinary Commission.
- The horse's Competition ends two hours after the horse crosses the finish line. Treatment of horses within two hours following the finish, unless for minor conditions, means an automatic elimination of the horse.
- At all rides 40km and over horses must remain on the ride base for this two hour period unless permission is obtained from the Vet Commission, or if no VC then Ground Jury, to remove the horse. Failure to abide by this rule may result in elimination from the ride.

1.6.8 General

- The following must enter the novice class at all events:
 - Unregistered horses.
 - Horses without a current ESNZ registration sticker in their Vetbook.
 - Horses without their logbook at the event.
- These horses must compete on a DVC. No kilometres will be awarded but the Three Ride Rule applies.

1.6.9 Yarding

- (i) At all events, if camping overnight, the minimum standard of yarding must be:
- a. Four rigid corners (examples of, but not limited to -. waratahs - these MUST have safety caps -, side of truck, fence already standing).
 - Rigid corners must be firmly in the ground.
 - Safety caps on waratahs must be firmly attached
 - b. Two strands of electric fence tape, not string.
 - Tape must be tight at all times regardless of whether the horse in is the yard or not.
 - c. Electrified while horses are inside yard. Minimum voltage going through the tape is to be 2000v.
 - d. Minimum height of top tape /rail =1 metre.
 - e. Approximate minimum distance between the two tapes = 400mm
 - f. Stallions must have an approved solid yard displaying a STALLION sign. All stallion yards are to be a minimum height of 1.2 metres.
 - g. If electric fence tape is used each yard must be a separate yard, not joined to any other yard.
 - h. Only one horse is permitted per electric fence tape yard
 - i. All horses must be identified by an ID tag while in their pen overnight. This tag will have the rider's back number on it. ID tag shall be attached to the halter or front strap of the cover.
- (ii) It is mandatory for all horses to have halters on while they are in their yards.
- (iii) Electric Fence Standards of any type are not classed as rigid corners.

1.7 Rider Rules

1.7.1 General

Unregistered riders must enter the Novice class and purchase a Non-Graded Day Membership. For all other classes the rider must have a current ESNZ membership. If the registered rider does not have their card or card number with them at the ride they must purchase a Non-Graded Day Membership. They may still enter the Open, Intermediate or Junior class but must confirm their membership card number to the ride secretary with three days of the completion of the ride otherwise no kilometres will be awarded.

1.7.2 Rider Identification:

Designated Rider Back Number must:

- Be worn by the rider during the ride.
- Be clearly visible.
- Accompany the horse to all vetting procedures.

1.7.3 Juniors

- A rider who is under 18 on the 1st August in any one year will be classed as a junior.
- They may remain riding as a junior until the end of the season in which they turn 18.
- Juniors must have parents/guardian written permission to ride.
- Horses qualifying in Junior classes can use those rides as qualifying rides for the Intermediate class at Championship rides.
- Juniors may ride in any division but points and kilometres will only apply to the division they are gained in.
- All qualified kilometres will count towards lifetime kilometres regardless of the division they were gained in.

1.8. Riding Rules

1.8.1

Riders must complete the ride on the horse nominated at the pre-ride vetting.

1.8.2

Horses and riders must not have outside assistance including on-board heart rate monitors, GPS or any other navigational equipment.

1.8.3

The Organising Committee, in conjunction with the ride TD, will mark a designated area immediately prior to the finish line (no less than 500 metres and no more than 2 kilometres) within which competitors must remain mounted and maintain forward motion at all times (no exceptions). After crossing the finish line competitors must remain mounted and continue walking until the vet or pulse steward is available to take horse's heart rate

1.8.4

Competitors must follow the course markers and maintain forward motion at all times. No weaving, circling or zigzagging allowed.

1.8.5

Riders may dismount but must be mounted to cross the start/finish line.

1.8.6

Competitors must present horses at each vetting phase and pass through each checkpoint.

1.8.7

Elimination will be for the following:

- a) Lameness.
- b) Missing or being late for a checkpoint or vetting phase.
- c) Pulse rate over the allowable beats per minute after thirty (30) minute rest period or final vetting phase.
- d) Physical or verbal abuse of horse or person.
- e) Completing the ride 60 minutes faster or slower than the set optimum time.
- f) At the presiding vets discretion.
- G) Contravention of ride rules.
- h) Failure to maintain forward motion on the course i.e. Time wasting.

1.8.8

Random swabbing may be carried out if required by the Ride Committee.

1.8.9

The course marker in conjunction with the Organising Committee sets the riding time.

1.8.10

Where the track marker(s) are competing in a championship ride, a detailed course map must be given to each competitor at least one hour prior to the start of the event.

1.9. Protests:

Any person may lodge a protest within one hour of completion of the ride. Protests must be accompanied by the appropriate fee in cash (no cheques) refundable if the protest is upheld.

1.10 Safety:

Safe riding footwear with heels of 12mm or more, or cages/boxes on stirrups are required to compete in all events.

All riders must wear an approved equestrian standard helmet.

1.11 Mandatory Rest for Horses and Rider Suspensions

- a) FEI Article 815.3.2, 815.3.3 and 815.3.4 **apply to all horses at all events.**

Article 815.3.2 Invasive treatment is defined as: Any treatment of a horse which involves the puncture or incision of the skin or insertion of any instrument or foreign material into the body is considered invasive. Exceptions to the rule would be the administration of oral electrolytes or acupuncture. Any metabolic condition diagnosed in a horse that has Failed to Qualify that left untreated would compromise or threaten the welfare of the horse would be considered a condition requiring invasive treatment.

Article 815.3.3 If a horse has Failed to Qualify for metabolic reasons which require immediate invasive treatment at any CEI events, it must be given a mandatory rest period of 60 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI event.

Article 815.3.4 If a horse has Failed to Qualify for metabolic reasons which require Invasive treatment at any 2 consecutive CEI events or twice within any 3 month period, it must be given a mandatory rest period of 90 days before it is again eligible to participate in a CEI event

- b) A Mandatory Rest Report must be completed when a horse is eliminated for metabolic reasons which require immediate invasive treatment at any event.
- c) Any Rider who receives 2 Mandatory Rest Reports in any events within a 3 month period must complete a Novice CTR or Pre-Novice endurance ride before entering any other rides.
- d) Any Rider who receives 3 Mandatory Rest Reports in any events within a 6 month period is automatically suspended from all competition for a period of 6 weeks and must then complete a Novice CTR or Pre-Novice endurance ride before entering any other rides.
- e) The EnNZ Board may decide, in consultation with the National Veterinary Advisor, to create a supplementary schedule for additional rest requirements for horses who suffer consistent metabolic or heart rate elimination problems over time.
- f) Any Rider or Horse that receives 2 Mandatory Rest Reports within one season loses eligibility for any National Awards during that season.

g) Clause (f) above does not apply to Lifetime Kilometre awards.

1.12 Horsemastership

1.12.1

Proper care of the horse must be taken before, during and after the ride.

1.12.2

Trail courtesy and good manners must be observed by all riders at all times.

1.13 Whips and Spurs

No Whips or Spurs are allowed at any CTR event.

1.14. Vetting & Scoring Rules

- Horses must be presented to the vet unsaddled and in halter and lead rope for all vetting phases.
- No bandages or boots to be worn by horses in the vet ring.
- Stallions are to be presented at the vet ring in a bridle with bit, or headgear as approved by ride veterinarian or Ground Jury prior to presentation.
- Competitors must arrive on time for vetting. Lateness will result in elimination.
- Riders may dismount while across the line vetting takes place.

- Vetting must be done by:
 - A veterinarian, or
 - A person authorised by the Organising Committee as being capable of doing so.

- Time penalties are:
 - 2 points per minute or part there of under the set ride time
 - 1 point per minute or part there of over the set ride time
- The pre-ride heart rate is taken for veterinary purposes only
- Incoming heart rate is taken for the full 60 seconds after each loop in 40 km rides and under. In rides over 40km, including Championship rides, the vet gate system is used. Refer Championship Rule – Rule. 1.16.13
- Final heart rates shall be taken for a full 60 seconds.
- The final score is the total heart rate (excluding pre-ride heart rate) plus any time penalties. Lowest score wins. If two or more combinations have equal scores then the combination closest to the optimum time is the winner.
- Ride times to be recorded in hours, minutes and seconds e.g. 2.15.20.
- The ride results shall not be unreasonably withheld from riders during the progress of the event. At the completion of a ride, OC's are to allow an appropriate time from the display of the results to formal prize-giving (e.g. club rides–10mins; Championships – 1hr).

1.15. General Rules

1.15.1 Events Calendar - moved to Supplementary Rules for Clubs and Members

1.15.2 Levies, Results, Mandatory Rest Reports - moved to Supplementary Rules for Clubs and Members

1.15.3 Mini Schedules - moved to Supplementary Rules for Clubs and Members

1.15.4 Vet Fees, Written Queries, Abuse of Officials

- Member's queries must be in writing and submitted to EnNZ.
- All fees for veterinary attention to individual horses during or after the ride are to be paid for by the person responsible for the horse.
- Abuse of Veterinarians and other Ride officials may result in disqualification after a hearing involving the person concerned and the Ground Jury.

1.15.5 Track Marking

At all Points and Training rides the track to be ridden needs to be clearly marked. The riders must be advised at the ride briefing as to what types of markers are being used and of any hazards on the track. The track must be marked in such a way that no rider gains an unfair advantage over another.

1.15.6 Organising Committee

Should a horse die or receive veterinary resuscitative attention the Organising Committee must report it to the Sport Manager together with a veterinary certificate.

It is the responsibility of the OC at all events to provide an adequate supply of water at the venue to cater for the horses' requirements prior to, during and following completion of the rides.

1.15.7 Officials Required at Events - moved to Supplementary Rules for Clubs and Members

1.15.8 Conflict of Interest of Officials - moved to Supplementary Rules for Clubs and Members

1.15.9 Veterinary Procedures & Parameters

Refer FEI Rules for Endurance Riding *Article 820 & 821*

1.15.10 First Aid - moved to Supplementary Rules for Clubs and Members

1.15.11 Checkpoints - moved to Supplementary Rules for Clubs and Members

1.16 CHAMPIONSHIP RULES :

For all championship events all CTR rules apply with the addition of these Championship Rules.

1.16.1

CTR will run a Championship event in February or March each year. This will be separate from Endurance Championship events unless the Endurance Championships are being hosted by a CTR Club.

1.16.2

Riders in all Championship classes must be financial members of an affiliated club and have a current financial ESNZ membership.

1.16.3

Horses must have a current ESNZ registration to compete in Championship classes. –

1.16.4

To ride in any Championship ride, the horse and rider (not necessarily that combination) must have qualified in affiliated CTR rides as follows:

1.16.4a OPEN: Horse and rider must have qualified in One (1) Open 30km or over Points ride within the 12 months immediately preceding the closing date for final entries for the event. There must be no more than a maximum of 20 time penalties in the qualifying ride. Horses and riders must be registered with the ESNZ.

1.16.4b INTERMEDIATE: Horse and rider must have qualified in One (1) 15km or over Points rides within the 12 months immediately preceding the closing date for final entries for the event. There must be no more than a maximum of 30 time penalties in the qualifying ride. Horses and riders must be registered with the ESNZ.

1.16.4c JUNIOR: (Under 18yrs). Horse and rider must have qualified in One (1) 15km or over Points ride within the 12 months immediately preceding the closing date for final entries for the event. There must be no more than a maximum of 30 time penalties in each ride. Horses and riders must be registered with the ESNZ.

1.16.5

Riders competing in Junior classes at championship rides will not be despatched from the start line with riders competing in other classes.

1.16.6

All the above named sections are to be included at all Championship events.

1.16.7

Entry fees for Championship rides are set at a minimum of \$30.

1.16.8

At all Championship events a registered veterinarian must carry out all vetting.

1.16.9

For Championship rides all horses must be a minimum of five (5) calendar years of age.

1.16.10

The Open class at Championship events must be a minimum of 60kms but must not exceed 75kms for a one day ride. However, if the competition is run over more than one day, the distance to be ridden each day must not exceed 60kms.

1.16.11

The Intermediate and Junior classes at Championship events must be a minimum of 30kms but must not exceed 40kms for a one day ride.. However, if the competition is run over more than one day, the distance to be ridden each day must not exceed 40kms.

1.16.12

Random swabbing will be carried out at all championship events.

1.16.13

Rides over 40kms must be divided into two or more loops. In a multi loop ride loop ride the rider has 30 minutes to present their horse at the vet gate. If the horse fails the heart rate criteria it may be presented once more within the 30 minutes. The horse's heart rate must then meet the required criteria as per Rule 1.6.4 or the horse will be eliminated. The ride time will continue until the horse has been successfully presented. The rider will then have a hold time, specified at the pre-ride briefing, in which to rest their horse before presenting themselves and their horse to the timekeeper at the start line in order to commence the next loop. A horse must commence all remaining loops at the designated departure time (ie immediately after hold)

The 'hold time' commences when the rider calls 'time' at the vet ring and the horse's pulse meets the ride criteria, and, having been declared fit to continue by the vet, finishes when the horse is due to depart on the next loop.

At the end of the ride the horse may only be presented once. There is no second chance.

Appendix I NATIONAL COMPETITIVE TRAIL RIDING AWARDS - moved to Supplementary Rules for Clubs and Members