

SUMMARY OF 2019 RULE CHANGES - (Published:05 January 2019)

We are very nearly ready to open the calendar for the 2019 season. Please find below a summary of rule changes for 2019 and a few clarifications.

1) Ride organisers can now offer 20-29km Novice 'Foundation' GERs. These will not attract conventional trophy points, although a special trophy may be offered for this category of ride at the end of the season. These new GER distances were brought in following a member vote at the AGM. Please note: First season novice restrictions also apply to Novice Foundation rides. 3 x novice GERs of 30km or above will still be required to upgrade to Open level.

2) Escorts of junior riders in Graded Endurance Rides can now elect to enter hors concours at half the normal entry fee. Escorts entering hors concours must be qualified for the class entered and will not receive trophy points for their ride, but the distance completed will still be added to the horse's lifetime distance. This change was brought in following a member vote at the AGM.

3) Pleasure rides of more than 34km in a day are no longer permitted on welfare grounds. Riders wishing to ride in longer distance classes should enter a Graded Endurance Ride with a full vetting.

4) Donkeys and mules have been officially brought into the rule book. We have a number of donkeys and mules already riding with us, and it was time to regularise their status in the rule book.

5) Hat standards are remaining as per 2017 and 2018 until the new European hat standard has been approved by the EU.

6) Novice horses can now only take part in GERs of over 45km if they have already successfully completed three Novice GERs of between 30 and 45km.

7) Team physiotherapists. Rule 3.7.10 has been clarified: A British Team competitor at a championship event will only be financially responsible for the cost of accommodation, food and travel expenses for the vet, Chef d'Equipe, physiotherapist and farrier.

8) Hold times. Any ride of 80km or more should have at least one vet hold which is at least 40 minutes in length. This change has been made on welfare grounds.

9) Vetting procedures in GERs. No examination likely to irritate or distress the horse should take place until after the pulse has been taken. This change was brought in following a member vote at the AGM.

10) Responsibilities of ride organisers. For clarity, a reminder has been inserted into the rule book that ride organisers must ensure that signed hard copy entry forms for all entrants who did not enter through the Endurance GB online entry system are forwarded to the Endurance GB office after the ride. Please note, this applies to national rides and FEI rides, and is particularly important for day members. If the rider on the day is not the rider who originally entered, a fresh entry form must be completed and signed and evidence of qualification for the class entered must be provided. This is not a change to the current process.

Note: If local groups are using a bespoke online entry provider for their social rides, these electronic entry forms must include the appropriate disclaimer for each individual as per the paper ride entry forms. Copies of the completed online ride entry forms must be sent to the office after the ride along with any paper entry form

11) Escorts of junior and Para-Equestrian Endurance riders. The procedure for agreeing a suitable escort and managing mid ride changes of escort has been clarified. Escorts will need to sign either an Escort Agreement Form (juniors) or a Para Escort Form (Para-Equestrian Endurance Riders). This change has been brought in on safeguarding grounds.

12) Hatcams. Our insurance company have relaxed their restrictions on hatcams. Hatcams are no longer completely banned, and can be used at the rider's own risk.