

GUIDELINES FOR UNOFFICIAL ONE DAY EVENTS

EFA NSW in conjunction with EVENTING NSW

Preamble: The EFA NSW has advised all EFA insured clubs that they are required to affiliate with the appropriate discipline for any activities which incorporate training or low level competition of a discipline – with this in mind ENSW has developed basic guidelines/rules which address the safety issues of conducting 'activities' which include the jumping of fixed obstacles.

- Eventing NSW wishes to encourage clubs that introduce riders to Eventing, and these clubs are deserving of the protection that affiliation with the EFA will provide.
- Chicken runs & training ODEs are a less frightening and more encouraging introduction to the sport of Eventing.
- Many EFA members wish to experience Eventing at a simple and easy level, and deserve the protection of a proper framework and rules for lower level events.
- The EFA NSW & ENSW have the capacity to assist all affiliated clubs.
- ENSW will facilitate all Eventing affiliated clubs with course design and technical assistance. Arrangements can be made for course consultation before an event at no charge, if the club does not have a suitable qualified committee member.
- ENSW has produced these guidelines with the aim of maintaining safety standards, while easing requirements which are not central to safety or the sport.
- ENSW wishes to develop a calendar for Unofficial Events (eg Chicken Runs, Hunter Trials, Cross Country Competitions, Derby Days, and Training Days) with a view to promoting the calendar on its website and in The Eventer magazine.
- Any activity that includes the jumping of 'fixed obstacles' will be deemed to be Eventing and therefore must be run under EFA rules and these guidelines.
- Any Event which has activity that includes jumps of dimensions exceeding 80cms will be an Official Event and as such, the Horse Levy and Entry Secretary rebate will be applicable, along with lodgment of Entry lists and results to the EFA & ENSW, for all classes from (and including) Introductory and above. The full Rules for Eventing must then be followed for all classes, with the addition of Table 1 for Newcomer or Encourager classes. Established Eventing Clubs who incorporate Newcomer or Encourager classes with official events of Introductory and above will not be required to pay the levy on Newcomer or Encourager classes.

- Unofficial Events are defined as any event which has obstacles 80cm and below in all classes offered. (this encompasses Introductory, Newcomers and/or Encourager classes). They are not required to pay the NSW Horse Levy and Entry Secretary rebate will not be applicable, nor lodge Entry lists or results with the EFA & NSW.
- Maximum dimensions are described in Table 1. Fences do not need to be built to maximum dimensions and in many cases will be significantly lower. However, the maximum dimensions must not be exceeded at either Jumping or Cross Country, to give competitors certainty as to the requirements of competition, and to foster safety.
- Dimensions of Introductory, Newcomers and Encourager classes have been selected to reflect in most cases the Pony Club Rules for Eventing at C, D and E grades respectively. This should allow the use of Pony Club courses for Unofficial Events, and club courses for Pony Club events. (Preliminary and PreNovice rules closely parallel Pony Club B and A Grades respectively).
- Distances and Speeds for XC and Jumping are described in Table 1. Lower distances and speeds may be selected by clubs if they desire, but recommended distances and speeds should not be exceeded. Penalty points should be allocated for competitors who go too fast as per the EFA Rules.
- A club may decide to have no timing (i.e. no optimum time or time limit) but must strictly monitor that riders are riding at a safe speed and at a speed appropriate to the class. They must be sufficiently organized to warn any rider on course who appears to be riding at excessive speed, recklessly approaching fences or riding uncontrollably, and be prepared to eliminate such a rider if they continue in a manner judged to be unsafe.
- Clubs may stipulate that riders may ride past a jump that they do not wish to jump, or that they may ride past a jump at which they have had two refusals to continue the course, or alternatively may jump a smaller alternative route 'chicken route' for their third attempt.
- The rules currently stipulate that a competitor eliminated in one phase may compete in further phases, unless the judge of the phase in which they were eliminated or the clubs organizing committee or a Technical Delegate believes that they are dangerous.
- Dressage tests may be EFA Preliminary (1.1 – 1.4) or locally recognised Preparatory Tests. Callers are allowed at Encouragers and Newcomers levels. Whips are not allowed at any level.
- Dressage Whips: Carrying a whip of any kind during an eventing dressage test is forbidden, and the results is elimination. However, a competitor at an unofficial event may ask and receive the judge's permission to ride with a whip. This permission can be sought when presenting to the judge just prior to starting the test. This may be a jumping whip or dressage type whip.

- Dressage Callers: All dressage tests should ideally be carried out entirely from memory, and all movements must follow in the order laid down in the test. However, a competitor at Encouragers and Newcomers levels at an unofficial event may ask and receive the judges permission to have a caller. This permission can be sought when presenting to the judge just prior to starting the test.
- Training days which include competition following or combined with training should be held with accredited NCAS Level 1 G (or above) Instructor in attendance and responsible for the riders safety. No rider should be permitted to jump fixed obstacles no matter their age if the Instructor considers that they are not yet competent to do so.
- Riders who are younger than being in the year of 11th birthday will be required to meet a minimum standard before competing. This standard will be either to have been graded at Pony Club C, D and E grades for Introductory, Training and Encourager classes respectively, or alternatively, to be certified by a NCAS (National Coaching and Accreditation Scheme) instructor prior to competing.
- Medical: A first aid service must be present at all times. Emergency vehicles must be able to access all parts of the venue. Cross-Country Test: An ambulance or a recognised Private Paramedic Service must be present while competitors are jumping fixed obstacles. A Doctor should be present during the cross-country tests. If the ambulance (or paramedic equivalent) is not on the ground, then the event must be halted. Show Jumping Test: A Doctor (with an appropriately equipped first aid service) and/or a fully equipped emergency ambulance (or paramedic equivalent) should be present during the show jumping test.
- Gear: This should be the same as EFA rules. ie no boots in dressage, and martingales for jumping and cross country should be restricted to running martingales or irish martingales. (Rationale: it is important that the riders become familiar with the requirements of the sport but more particularly the reason martingales which are restrictive (headchecks or standing martingales or martingales which have a running rein effect are not permitted is because they are a danger to horse and rider). This particularly applies over fixed fences where the horses natural instinct for self preservation may be compromised by a restrictive martingale. Boots or bandages should not be permitted in the dressage because they are not permitted at any level of dressage in competition under EFA or FEI rules.
- Dress: EFA rules for hats and boots must be followed. Clubs should have the option to allow riders to ride in appropriately cool or warm gear as required. Clubs have the discretion regarding stipulating dressage/ show jumping dress as they wish.
- Inspection of courses to ensure safety of horse and rider should be conducted by EFA accredited course designers or Technical Delegates or an accredited NCAS Level 1 G (or above) Instructor.