



# **INTERNATIONAL TREC REGULATION**

**Applicable from January 1st, 2022**

**with modification on 25/06/2022**



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## PREAMBLE

The International Equestrian Tourism Federation is the sole international organisation with the authority to govern TREC competitions.

According to procedures decided by the FITE and the relevant specifications, the actual organisation of each of the various competitions is allocated to a National Equestrian Tourism Organisation (NETO), designated by the FITE.

TREC competitions are open to all equines and determine the best national team or the best horse and rider combination, over a series of phases rather than just in one single area.

A TREC competition comprises three phases:

- ◆ The POR phase (Orienteering and Regularity),
- ◆ The MA phase (Control of Paces),
- ◆ The PTV phase (Obstacle course).

## I – ORGANISATION

### Art 1.1 – Field and equipment

The Organising Committee must provide the following:

- ◆ Stables,
- ◆ A veterinary inspection area,
- ◆ A map reading room,
- ◆ An approved POR, without any apparent danger,
- ◆ A warm-up area for the Control of Paces phase and the PTV phase,
- ◆ An area for running the Control of Paces phase,
- ◆ A PTV course, built to be in line with technical requirements.
- ◆ This list is not exhaustive and may be supplemented by a specification pertaining to a single competition.

### Art 1.2 – Veterinary

- ◆ Two vets are appointed by the Organising Committee and, as appropriate, assisted by a commission. Three vets are necessary if there are more than 80 horses taking part in the competition.
- ◆ Veterinary inspections must take place in a flat area, in a straight line, on a firm but yielding surface
- ◆ They must take place near stables. One or more watering points must be available for the horse.
- ◆ Presenting for a veterinary inspection can be done either with a bridle or halter.
- ◆ Difficult horses and stallions must be presented with a bridle.

### Art 1.3 – Timing officials

- ◆ An official timing is provided by the Organising Committee.

## II – COMPETITIONS

### Art 2.1 – General

All TREC competitions organised by the FITE, whether individual championships or team championships per continent, International Open competitions, on the initiative of one or several NETOs, etc. must comply with the international rules and provide to judges and course designers official FITE documents. However, certain articles may be modified by organisers, according to the competition, with the formal agreement of the FITE.

Competitions considered as international TREC competitions are those on FITE event calendar.

Specific regulation for the European Open Cup accept different national rules that are compatible with FITE's.

Specific features of the Young Riders and Juniors section are also given in these rules.

### **A – World Senior Championship**

As of 2004, a World championship is organised every four years.

### **B – European Open Senior Championship**

As of 2006, a European senior open championship is organised every four years.

### **C – World Young Riders Championship**

As of 2012, a World Young Riders' championship is organised every two years.

### **D – European Open Young Riders Championship**

As of 2013, a European Open Young Riders championship is organised every two years.

### **E – World Juniors Championship**

As of 2020, a World Juniors championship is organised every two years.

### **F – European Open Juniors Championship**

As of 2019, a European Open Juniors championship is organised every two years.

### **G – European Open Cup**

- ◆ This is intended to bring together TREC riders throughout the sports season in order to encourage exchange of techniques and to bring competitors closer together.
- ◆ Every year it is organised from 1st January to 31st December under the FITE's governance, by member NETOs and is open to their affiliated riders.
- ◆ NETOs whose TREC competition rules are compatible with the FITE rules are authorised to organise these competitions.
- ◆ Each NETO can organise a maximum of three TREC competitions per season to be included in the FITE event schedule.
- ◆ FITE will include competitions in its event schedule for the following year that are declared to it by the NETOs, at latest by the 1st November of the previous year.
- ◆ The events of the European Cup of TREC can't be organized during the weekend of the World and/or European Championship, neither the previous weekend, nor the next.
- ◆ Other additional Open competitions organised by the NETO's will not give riders points Which count towards the annual European Cup rankings.
- ◆ FITE will only validate results from TREC events that are part of the event schedule.
- ◆ Entries must be sent to the organiser at latest by midnight on Friday of the week preceding the competition on FITE entry forms.
- ◆ The relevant ranking is drawn up and announced by the FITE at the end of the season.
- ◆ Any competition that is part of the FITE event schedule is considered to be part of the European Cup circuit.
- ◆ The World TREC Championship and the European Open TREC Championship are not European Cup competitions. Rankings obtained by competitors in these two championships do not count towards the European Cup ranking.

## III – JURIES

### **Art 3.1 - Composition of juries for World and/or European Championships**

Officials are proposed by the FITE sports commission for these Championships.

Ground Jury and the veterinary commission decisions are taken on an absolute majority vote of each of the members, with the Jury President having the casting vote.

The Ground Jury President and the Technical Delegate must be informed of any incidents occurring during the competition.

#### **A – Ground Jury**

##### **1 – Members**

- ◆ The President of the Ground Jury is appointed by the FITE Board of directors,
- ◆ Two international TREC judges from FITE, including at least one not from the host nation, suggested by the Organising Committee,
- ◆ The FITE Technical Delegate, in a consultative role.

##### **2 – Role**

- ◆ It must ensure that these rules are applied,
- ◆ It is responsible for its implementation by various judges and controllers,
- ◆ It must receive and process technical queries and appeals,
- ◆ It must validate the results of each phase and of the final result.
- ◆ It must be present during veterinary checks,
- ◆ It must be present at the start of each phase to check the smooth running of each phase and the compliance of the equipment used by the competitors.

Cases not appearing in this list are addressed by the Ground Jury. The Jury is competent to take decisions based on common sense and fair play, ensuring that all decisions are compatible with the spirit of the FITE rulebook.

##### **3 – Its decisions**

They are irrevocable.

#### **B – Ethical Commission**

- ◆ Presided over by the President of the FITE sports commission
- ◆ It also comprises two international judges put forward by the President of this Commission.
- ◆ The FITE Technical Delegate, in a consultative role.
- ◆ It meets upon request from the FITE President, after the competition at a date and venue to be defined.
- ◆ Its role is to rule on events that the Ground Jury has failed to resolve: in cases of doping, cheating, behaviour, etc.
- ◆ It may call upon and consult ground judges and competitors concerned.
- ◆ Expenses linked to meetings of this Jury, including travel and accommodation expenses, are fully covered by FITE.

#### **C – Technical Delegate**

The Technical Delegate is FITE's technical point of reference.

He is designated by the Board of directors, as proposed by the FITE President.

He works under the authority of the FITE President to whom he reports on his activities, unless otherwise specified in regulations.

The Technical Delegate is a qualified official:

- in specific riding techniques and the relevant teaching techniques
- in sports events: organising and preparing competitions.

The Technical Delegate is authorised to involve specialist technical officials and to encourage their

training. He is backed up by an alternate Technical Delegate that is proposed for appointment to the FITE President and may replace the Technical Delegate if he is not available.

This decision, taken by the FITE President, is not the responsibility of the event organisers or the NETOs that they are part of.

The Technical Delegate may be assisted by specialist officers: event organisers, course designers, etc... and may encourage training for them:

- ◆ The Technical delegate must ensure that the event complies with the recommendations for organisers as published by FITE. The Technical Delegate must carry out a feasibility visit of the proposed site supported by the candidate NETO and their designated representative, before the
- ◆ Annual General Meeting is held to give definitive approval of the presented application.
- ◆ The FITE's statutory General Assembly is held every year in September conjointly with an international TREC competition, and the feasibility visit for the following year's proposed site must have been carried out before this meeting.
- ◆ The relevant Technical Delegate's report is sent to the FITE President at least one month before the date of the General Assembly.
- ◆ The Technical Delegate reports to the FITE President on any possible difficulties encountered in carrying out his inspection.
- ◆ He checks the organisation during the championship and reports it to Ground Jury President.
- ◆ D – Judges

Judges are appointed by the Organising Committee.

International judges and trainers must follow refresher courses and regularly officiate at events. The protocol can be consulted on the FITE website [www.fite-net.org](http://www.fite-net.org)

If a competitor and / or a horse seem physically unable to continue a phase, the judges are entitled to stop the competitor by neutralizing the time and must inform the field jury as soon as possible.

### E – Timing officials

Placed under the authority of the Ground Jury President, these officials are involved in several phases:

- ◆ The Control of Paces phase,
- ◆ The PTV phase.

## IV - COMPETITORS

### Art 4.1 – Nationality

The National Federation (NETO) may select a rider in international competition if he has the same nationality as the said federation. Proof of nationality may be required. For riders with more than one nationality, they will be asked at the age of 18, to decide what their "sports nationality" will be and therefore which federation they wish to be affiliated to. Riders under the age of 18 and with more than one nationality can choose each year which federation they wish to be affiliated to.

Riders not residing in their home country may not compete in international competitions under the flag of their country of residence.

This regulation is based on the general regulation FEI, Article 119- Sport Nationality Status of Athletes.

### Art 4.2 – General entry conditions

#### A – World and/or European Open Championship

According to the schedule defined by FITE, each National Equestrian Tourism Organisation (NETO) should send the following to the organiser of a World or European Open Championship:

- ◆ Their intention to participate, at least 90 days before the championship.
  - ◆ The list of team members at least 15 days before start of the championship:
- For seniors and Young riders: six riders in each category of whom 4 will make up of the national team, the two additional riders competing as individuals only. The organiser NETO can enter up to six additional riders, competing as individuals, giving a total of 12 riders for the host nation in each of the

two age groups.

- For Juniors: each NETO can enter 2 duos. The organiser NETO can enter an additional pair.

### **B – European Open Cup**

Any rider can participate in the TREC European Open Cup unless otherwise decided by the NETO.

Participation is individual.

The competitors can ride several horses during the same sports season.

### **Art 4.3 – Specific conditions for Young Riders**

Riders participating in competitions must be aged at least 16 years old and at most 21 years old in the calendar year. However, any other rules in force in the host country are applied as a priority.

### **Art 4.4 – Specific conditions for Juniors**

Riders participating in competitions must be at least 14 years old and at most 18 years old in the calendar year. However, any other rules in force in the host country are applied as a priority.

A Duo is a team composed of 2 competitors.

### **Art 4.5 – Outfit**

Correct riding and team outfit is required.

- For the vet checks, the person who presents a pony/horse must wear long trousers or jodhpurs and sensible footwear.
- For the POR, the outfit is free of choice.
- For the MA, PTV and the opening and closing ceremonies, riding boots or half chaps are obligatory.

The shoulders must be covered for:

- Opening and closing ceremonies
- Phases
- Vet checks.

The wearing of an approved safety helmet is compulsory for all competitors in all phases, all rounds and all competitions, whenever they are riding a horse, and throughout the whole competition.

Back protection "body protectors" must be worn by each competitor during the PTV phase.

If the competitor is wearing shoes with a heel smaller than 12mm, using closed and/or safety stirrups is mandatory.

The ground jury may not allow competitors to start if wearing inappropriate or ill-suited equipment.

The dressage whip is only permitted for Control of Paces phase.

The maximum length of the whip on the PTV is 75 cm.

### **Art 4.6 – Means of communication**

Any competitor who, for reasons of safety, wants to have a cell phone, GPS, radio, walkie-talkie, etc. in their possession, must declare it to judges before the start of the POR when entering the map reading room. The device will be sealed by stewards in a special pack that will then be given back to the competitor.

Any other means of communication and GPS are prohibited.

## **V – HORSES**

### **Art 5.1 – Requirements for the participation of horses**

Horses participating in the competitions must:

- ◆ be at least 6 years old
- ◆ have the appropriate identification document
  - FEI passport or
  - equine passport with a graphical outline, and up-to-date vaccination details according to legislation in the host country.

- ◆ To avoid any difficulty in terms of compliance with health requirements as described above and/or other national obligations the Organising Committee must inform the FITE and all NETOs likely to participate in competitions in good time – publication of the pre-programme.

### Art 5.2 – Vaccination procedure

All regulatory vaccinations required by the competent services in each NETO are mandatory. Vaccination against equine influenza is required to enter a competition.

So as to be considered vaccinated against equine flu, a horse must have been administered:

- An initial vaccination comprising 2 anti-flu injections between 21 and 92 days apart
- An annual booster, so that the gap between two injections does not exceed 12 months
- A vaccination no more than 6 months before the day of the competition.

A horse can compete from the time it received its first vaccination, i.e. after the second injection. No injection may be administered in the 7 days running up to the horse's arrival at the competition venue.

### Art 5.3 – Tack and equipment

The tack: bit, saddle and reins can be changed between the phases.

Bits may be freely chosen and hackamores are authorised. It is also authorised to ride in a head collar.

Training aids: only running martingales are authorised during the competition.

The use of fly mask and UV protected mask is allowed when running the POR phase.

For the POR phase, competitors must have all the necessary equipment for a whole day's ride, part of which takes place at night:

- ◆ head collar, lead rope,
- ◆ electric lamp and reflective device to be visible to the rear or a light with a white light in front and a red light at the back, or as appropriate any other compulsory device in the organising nation,
- ◆ ~~for shod horses, a hoof boot or an emergency farriery kit~~
- ◆ identification for the rider and horse (photocopies as appropriate in countries where this is allowed)
- ◆ ~~minimum first aid kit, injectable products prohibited. It must include, at least, the following elements:~~
  - ◆ ~~Some sterile swabs,~~
  - ◆ ~~1 pair of round-ended scissors,~~
  - ◆ ~~1 elasticated bandage, around 10cm wide,~~
  - ◆ ~~1 disinfectant or antiseptic solution~~

At any point on the POR, the Ground Jury can check if the rider still has the minimum mandatory equipment

### Art 5.4 – Shoeing

Horses that are usually unshod may compete unshod.

At the preliminary veterinary inspection, it is noted whether the horse is shod or not. The stated condition of shoeing at this point is considered a minimum.

~~A horse losing a shoe during the POR must be fitted with the appropriate protective footwear (a new shoe or a hoof boot), before being authorised to start.~~ If the horse is presented at the control without shoes or hipposandals, it can continue its course if its locomotion is correct (without lameness).

On the POR, horses should be presented at control, veterinary inspections and / or equipment checks with the horse shod as it has been during the majority of this phase. Horses wearing hoof boots for the POR may compete in other phases unshod if the rider chooses.



## VI – TECHNICAL STANDARDS

### Art 6.1 – Allocation of points per phase

#### **A – Seniors and Young riders**

♦	POR phase	240 points
♦	MA phase	60 points
♦	PTV phase	160 points
	Maximum total that can be obtained for all phases	460 points

#### **B – Juniors Duo**

♦	POR phase	240 points
♦	MA phase : 60 pts x 2	120 points
♦	PTV phase : 140 pts x 2	280 points
	Maximum total that can be obtained for all phases	640 points

### **Art 6.2 – POR phase**

#### **A - Speed**

##### **1 – Optimum speeds for each stage and average speeds for the POR**

SECTION	SPEEDS PER STAGE	AVERAGE SPEED
Seniors	6 to 12 km/h	8 to 9 km/h
Young Riders	6 to 12 km/h	8 to 9 km/h
Juniors	6 to 10 km/h	7 to 9 km/h

In mountain regions, involving major changes in altitude or steep slopes, the POR course designer may, with the Technical Delegate's agreement, have stages with speeds of under 6 km/h.

The optimum speeds are:

- ♦ clearly displayed on a notice board
- ♦ told to riders by the steward at the start of the rest time between each stage
- ♦ constant over the stage in question
- ♦ chosen by the organisers to suit the category of rider (as per the table shown above)
- ♦ the organisers will be careful not to impose the same speed on two successive stages.

#### **B - Distance**

##### **1 – POR distance by day**

SECTION	POR DISTANCE BY DAY
Seniors	Between 35 and 45 kms
Young Riders	Between 25 and 35 kms
Juniors	20 kms maximum

## C – Penalty points

This phase is marked by deducting penalty points from an optimum total of 240 points allocated each time a competitor starts. The final result can be negative.

PENALTY POINTS	NUMBER OF POINTS
<b>Time penalties</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 point per minute late or early in comparison to the optimum time: the time taken is rounded down to the nearest minute.</li> <li>On stages with a freely chosen route stage: point to point, coordinates, etc.... the allocated time is maximum. Time penalties only start once the allocated time has been exceeded.</li> </ul>
<b>Course penalties</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 points per piece of missing equipment, with a maximum of 30 points, in the case of listed equipment being observed to be missing, unless the rider can justify its use.</li> <li>30 points for arriving by a route other than the intended direction.</li> <li>30 points for arriving with an opened map after a stage that was to be executed with a compass.</li> <li>50 points for any missed check-point. The two successive stages on each side of the missed check-point will be considered as one single stage to be executed at the speed that was set for the first of the two stages.</li> <li>30 points for missing a route check-point.</li> <li><del>30 points for being checked through an off route (incorrect) check-point.</del></li> <li>30 points for any competitor who is considered to stop and deliberately waste time (i.e does not maintain his horse in forward movement) within sight of a check-point, while staying on the route towards the timed line.</li> <li>A change of gait is authorised.</li> <li>Any competitor who does not leave a check-point, including the start line check-point, at the allocated time is penalised by one point for every full minute following his start time. For example, a rider who leaves a check-point 4'59" after he should have done will be penalised by 4 points. The rider must re-present their record card/book so that the check-point judges/stewards can record the new start time and the penalty points.</li> </ul>
<b>Horse losing a shoe</b>	<del>10 points for a shod horse that arrives at any stage check-point minus a shoe/shoes and without the protection of a hoof boot/boots.</del>
<b>Veterinary penalties</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 points per 5 minutes delay in departure imposed by the vet.</li> </ul>

For each stage, the score is calculated independently from the other stages. Because of this, received penalties in a stage are definitively incurred and cannot be won back on the other stages.

Any competitor who has arrived at a stage check-point cannot return to the stage already completed. In case of missing stage checks, the time penalty is calculated by adding up the distances of "x" number of stages under consideration. The calculation of the ideal time is based on the most recent known speed of the competitor.

### Example of time penalties for stages:

For an optimum calculated time of 55':

A competitor taking exactly 54'59" will have a real time (rounded to the minute reading) of 54' and therefore 1 penalty point.

A competitor taking exactly 55' or 55'59" will have a real time (rounded to the minute reading) of 55' and will therefore have no penalties.

A competitor taking exactly 56' or 56'59" will have a real time (rounded to the minute reading) of 56' and therefore 1 penalty point.

## Art 6.3 – Control of Paces phase

### A – Marking table

MARK	Seniors and Young riders		Juniors	
	CANTER	WALK	CANTER	WALK
	time in seconds	time in seconds	time in seconds	time in seconds
30	33.8 or more	67 and under	31,60 or more	75,00 and under
29	from 33.6 to 33.79	from 67.01 to 68	from 31,20 to 31,59	from 75,01 to 75,70
28	from 33.5 to 33.59	from 68.01 to 69	from 30,80 to 31,19	from 75,71 to 76,40
27	from 33.3 to 33.49	from 69.01 to 70	from 30,40 to 30,79	from 76,41 to 77,10
26	from 33.2 to 33.29	from 70.01 to 71	from 30,00 to 30,39	from 77,11 to 77,80
25	from 33 to 33.19	from 71.01 to 72	from 29,60 to 29,99	from 77,81 to 78,50
24	from 32.9 to 32.99	from 72.01 to 73	from 29,20 to 29,59	from 78,51 to 79,20
23	from 32.7 to 32.89	from 73.01 to 74	from 28,80 to 29,19	from 79,21 to 79,90
22	from 32.6 to 32.69	from 74.01 to 75	from 28,40 to 28,79	from 79,91 to 80,60
21	from 32.4 to 32.59	from 75.01 to 76	from 28,00 to 28,39	from 80,61 to 81,30
20	from 32.3 to 32.39	from 76.01 to 77	from 27,60 to 27,99	from 81,31 to 82,00
19	from 32.1 to 32.29	from 77.01 to 78	from 27,20 to 27,59	from 82,01 to 82,70
18	from 32 to 32.09	from 78.01 to 79	from 26,80 to 27,19	from 82,71 to 83,40
17	from 31.8 to 31.99	from 79.01 to 80	from 26,40 to 26,79	from 83,41 to 84,10
16	from 31.7 to 31.79	from 80.01 to 81	from 26,00 to 26,39	from 84,11 to 84,80
15	from 31.5 to 31.69	from 81.01 to 82	from 25,60 to 25,99	from 84,81 to 85,50
14	from 31.4 to 31.49	from 82.01 to 83	from 25,20 to 25,59	from 85,51 to 86,20
13	from 31.2 to 31.39	from 83.01 to 84	from 24,80 to 25,19	from 86,21 to 86,90
12	from 31.1 to 31.19	from 84.01 to 85	from 24,40 to 24,79	from 86,91 to 87,60
11	from 30.9 to 31.09	from 85.01 to 86	from 24,00 to 24,39	from 87,61 to 88,30
10	from 30.8 to 30.89	from 86.01 to 87	from 23,60 to 23,99	from 88,31 to 89,00
9	from 30.6 to 30.79	from 87.01 to 88	from 23,20 to 23,59	from 89,01 to 89,70
8	from 30.5 to 30.59	from 88.01 to 89	from 22,80 to 23,19	from 89,71 to 90,40
7	from 30.3 to 30.49	from 89.01 to 90	from 22,40 to 22,79	from 90,41 to 91,10
6	from 30.2 to 30.29	from 90.01 to 91	from 22,00 to 22,39	from 91,11 to 91,80
5	from 30 to 30.19	from 91.01 to 92	from 21,60 to 21,99	from 91,81 to 92,50
4	from 29.3 to 29.99	from 92.01 to 93	from 21,20 to 21,59	from 92,51 to 93,20
3	from 28.5 to 29.29	from 93.01 to 94	from 20,80 to 21,19	from 93,21 to 93,90
2	from 27.8 to 28.49	from 94.01 to 95	from 20,40 to 20,79	from 93,91 to 94,60
1	from 27 to 27.79	from 95.01 to 96	20	96,3
0	26.9 and under	96.01 and over	- than 20	+ than 97

### B – Marking:

- ◆ Control of Paces is judged anonymously. A minimum of 5 judges are posted along the corridor, plus 2 others, one at the start and one at the finish point.
- ◆ Judging must be made by each judge for the whole corridor. A fault in the same zone (A, B or C) of the same nature, break or corridor, must be noted by 2 judges to be taken into account.

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>
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- ◆ The quality of the canter is not taken into account. The walk is a 4 steps pace, and any diagonalisation will be penalised.

In both phases' tests, competitor's score will be 0 if he:

- ◆ does not remain at the required gait,
- ◆ comes out of the obstacle corridor, even if it is only a single hoof,
- ◆ demonstrates disunited canter.

The obstacle corridor in this case is determined by the inside edge of the markings.  
The test must be timed both electronically and manually.

## Art 6.4 – PTV phase

### A - General

The course counts 16 obstacles, either natural or man-made, that could be encountered when actually on a trail ride and appearing on approved list of PTV obstacles:

- ◆ 16 obstacles for Seniors and Young riders,
- ◆ 14 obstacles for Juniors,

Each obstacle can appear only once in the PTV marked route.

Their dimensions vary according to the section level and are detailed in the technical data sheets for each of them.

Maximum height for jump obstacles:

- ◆ Seniors: 1.10m
- ◆ Young riders: 0.90m
- ◆ Juniors : 0.70m

Between the obstacles, riders may choose their gait to suit their horse and the ground they're crossing, unless a particular speed has been imposed by the Ground Jury at certain points in the route.

For reasons of safety, the Ground Jury may be involved from time to time considering weather conditions or any other reason.

In the event of a fall, a judge may momentarily stop a rider or a horse that he considers to be unfit to continue the course, stopping the clock until the President of the Ground Jury has taken a decision.

### B – The course

The marked PTV route must be displayed from the very first day of the event and must mention:

- the "Start" and "Finish" gates
- compulsory passage points ("POs") are forbidden
- the distance
- the given time
- the obstacles: name and number,
- the approach method: in-hand or ridden,
- the gait: walk, trot, canter or free choice.

### C – Description of the obstacles

A certain amount of information is given concerning the shapes, dimensions, materials for these obstacles.

It is important to remember that this information is given for when we actually have to make the obstacle from scratch. In all cases it is recommended that natural obstacles are used wherever possible, whatever sizes and dimensions are used, as long as they represent a true obstacle without creating an objectively dangerous situation.

### D – List of obstacles

The obstacles must be chosen from this list.

TREC Technical Data Sheets may be consulted on the FITE website <http://www.fite-net.org>.

- |                                      |                          |                             |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Low branches                      | 13. In-hand staircase up | 26. Ridden footbridge       |
| 2. Bank                              | 14. Ridden staircase up  | 27. Leading up an incline   |
| 3. Ridden one-handed figure of eight | 15. In-hand ditch        | 28. Riding up an incline    |
| 4. In-hand corridor                  | 16. Ridden ditch         | 29. Leading down an incline |
| 5. Ridden corridor                   | 17. Water crossing       | 30. Riding down an incline  |
| 6. In-hand drop                      | 18. Hedge                | 31. Gate                    |
| 7. Ridden drop                       | 19. Immobility           | 32. Ridden rein-back        |
| 8. In-hand step-up                   | 20. Ridden immobility    | 33. In-hand rein-back       |
| 9. Ridden step-up                    | 21. In-hand S-bend       | 34. Bending                 |
| 10. Dip / crater                     | 22. Ridden S-bend        | 35. Ridden Tree trunk       |
| 11. In-hand staircase down           | 23. Mounting             | 36. In-hand Tree trunk      |
| 12. Ridden staircase down            | 24. Path crossing        |                             |
|                                      | 25. In-hand footbridge   |                             |

**Groups of difficulties :**

GROUPS	DIFFICULTIES
Group 1 : choice of gaits	Low branches
	Driving with one hand, figure of eight
	Ridden corridor
	Slalom
Group 2 : jumping	Ridden drop
	Ridden step-up
	Ridden ditch
	Hedge
	Path crossing
	Tree trunk in ridden
Group 3 : precision	Ridden staircase down
	Ridden staircase up
	Water crossing
	Immobility ridden
	Ridden S-bend test
	Ridden footbridge
	Ridden rein-back
	In-hand rein-back
	Gate
Group 4 : slope	Bank
	Dip
	Riding up an incline
	Riding down an incline
Group 5 : in-hand	In-hand corridor
	In-hand drop
	In-hand step-up
	In-hand staircase down
	In-hand staircase up
	In-hand ditch
	In-hand immobility
	In-hand S-bend test
	Mounting
	In-hand footbridge
	Leading up an incline
	Leading down an incline
	Go backward
	Tree trunk in-hand

**E - Distances and speeds**

A marked route is followed of approximately 1000 m minimum to be ridden in a set time at a speed of 12 km/h or lower, determined by the course designer for this event.

The PTV course designer can add an increase of 15 seconds for each obstacle in the difficulty of the groups 3 and 5 (above).

## F – Marking

During the World and/or European Championship, according to the PTV design, a pair of two judges can judge two obstacles with the agreement of the Technical Delegate.

Each of the obstacles is marked out of 10 according to the marking scheme and the guidelines that the judges have: this gives a maximum total of 160 points for all of the obstacles for Seniors and Young riders, 140 points for Juniors.

For a path crossing, a refusal or disobedience on the second part of the combination means that the competitor must reattempt both of the combination's elements to score any points.

Three refusals at an obstacle lead to 0 points for this obstacle, but the competitor is not eliminated from the phase.

Break in forward movement, change of gait:

This is not applied on the approach to the obstacle, only once the horse has put a foot in the obstacle penalty zone. It ceases to be applicable when the horse's last foot leaves the obstacle penalty zone. It cannot be applied for obstacles in which jumping from a standstill is authorised.

## G - Time

The overall time is determined by the PTV course designer and validated by the Technical Delegate following tests carried out before the phase.

Penalty points for exceeding the time will be deducted from the total PTV points according to the following rule:

- ◆ 1 point per tranche of 4 seconds
- ◆ Under no circumstances will the time penalties exceed 30 points.
- ◆ Under no circumstances will the timer be stopped without a Ground Jury decision.

**Example:** If the optimum time is 8 minutes:

A competitor completing the course in 8' 00" will not be penalised.

A competitor completing the course in 8' 01"- 8' 04" will receive a 1-point penalty.

A competitor completing the course in 8' 05"- 8' 08" will receive a 2-point penalty, etc...

## H – Not negotiating an obstacle

A competitor who does not want to pass an obstacle must:

- ◆ Stop
- ◆ Approach the obstacle judge
- ◆ Indicate his/her intention not to attempt the obstacle.

Failure to follow the above protocol, will result in the rider being given a zero score for the whole PTV phase.

## I – Rescue services

The organizer shall define a rescue plan for the event, according to:

- ◆ Considerations specific to the event, and more particularly, the time required for public rescue services to intervene.
- ◆ The maximum number of people (spectators and competitors) that can be at the event at any one time
- ◆ Recommendations and statutory regulations of the home NETO.

# VII – EVENT DETAILS

## Art 7.1 – Times

The competitions take place over at least 2 days.

The order of phases is defined by the Organising Committee and validated by the Technical Delegate.

At latest, the list of competitors' start times for the three phases will be communicated on the evening before the first phase.

The starting order will be the same for the POR, the PTV and the Control of Paces.

### **Art 7.2 – Starting order draw**

For the World or European championships, the starting order draw for teams is carried out during the Board of directors meeting or the FITE general assembly meeting preceding the championship.

Should one of the NETOs not show up or withdraw, the starting orders are shifted by one number: e.g. No. 5 does not show up, No. 6 takes No. 5's starting slot and so on...

In the instance of new NETOs entering during the course of the year, these will start at the end, following those nations already drawn.

### **Art 7.3 – Starting order**

Each chef d'equipe decides on the order in which his riders will compete.

The last possibility for modifying this is during the chefs d'équipes meeting on the day before the start of the event.

Individual riders must compete after the last team member of the last team. The order in which individual competitors start is such that no two competitors from any one NETO start in succession (as far as possible).

### **Art 7.4 – Allocation of number vests**

The starting order will follow the numbering of these number vests.

All competitors will wear number vests, numbered according to the drawn order. The numbers will be attached so as to be visible on the rider's chest and back as well as on the headpiece of the horse's bridle.

### **Art 7.5 – Equipment inspection**

A check may possibly be organised during the phase. It involves verifying that competitors have farriery equipment, first aid kit and safety equipment as appropriate.

### **Art 7.6 - POR**

The principle of the POR is to follow the set route of a given ride at predetermined speeds.

The POR can be organised over one or two routes, within a period of less than 24 hours.

The starting time of the first competitor or the first Duo cannot be before sunrise.

The ideal time for the POR must be calculated so that the last competitor to start can get back before nightfall.

A record card will be given to each competitor. It must be presented at each check-point that the rider finds.

The competitor must check the accuracy of the information therein, which is used to compile the results of that phase. In the case of a loss of the record book, the competitor is awarded the points of the lowest result of the POR minus 50 points.

Over the course, only the maps provided by the organiser may be in the competitors' possession.

During the preliminary veterinary inspection or equipment check-up, horses should be presented shod as they would be during the whole of this phase.

Any assistance to competitors, unless there is a danger, is prohibited.

Verbal communication between competitors on the POR course is not considered to be assistance in finding the route.

This route must include navigational difficulties causing orienteering problems and requiring choices in terms of using the terrain.

Correct check point arrival entrances will be marked by flags. Any alternative arrival routes, (i.e for different rider categories) will be distinguished by different shapes and/or signs.

POR check-points will be removed by the course designer, as appropriate, if necessary in the case of certain competitors being very late, only after consultation with the Technical Delegate and the formal agreement of the President of the Ground Jury President.

### **A - Speeds**

The speeds for each POR stage are compulsory.

Each competitor's score is calculated on the basis of the difference between the time it takes them to cover the course, measured at check-points that are not known about in advance, and an optimum time calculated according to the set speeds and the distance to be covered.

The distances measured on the map by the Ground Jury are the only ones to be taken into consideration.

### **B – The route**

The route is communicated to competitors on a 1/25,000 scale on standardized maps.

The organizer must provide blank, pre-drawn or partially pre-drawn maps so that competitors may write down the route.

Certain stages can involve a route to be followed with a compass or simply using the map co-ordinates of a meeting point, which does not necessarily have to be a check-point.

Competitors will be given twenty minutes in a designated Map Reading Room away from spectators, horses, chefs d'équipe and grooms prior to the start in order to mark down their route.

They must be given maps of the required scale.

### **C – Start-line**

This is known by competitors and located at the exit of the map reading room. It is marked out with a red and white flag.

The speed of the first stage is displayed on a board in the map reading room.

### **D – Stage check-point**

The competitors do not know the number and position of the check points. The time taken for each stage of the ride is measured from when the leading foreleg of the horse crosses the finish line which is validated by flags.

In the case of several routes and multiple finish lines at a check-point, each of the finish lines must be marked with flags. In this case, it is recommended to double-up these flags – which must be seen at all times by the stewards, but hidden from the riders – at a distance from the finish line of no more than 100 metres.

When within sight of a check-point, competitors must go directly to it, not deviating from the marked route and without stopping.

Stewards are not authorised to question a competitor who is at a distance greater than that of the pre-marker flags.

### **E – Stage check-point halt**

A halt of between 5 and 10 minutes must be imposed by the organisers at each check-point. This halt may be increased to 15 minutes should it include a veterinary inspection.

Stewards must check the shoes on the competitors' horses when they arrive at the check-point.

At these check-points, stewards will restart competitors according to the time intervals set when leaving the map room. However stewards have the power to change the departure intervals according to the circumstances, especially to avoid competitors meeting on the route. The time competitors are held in a check-point halt is neutral and not taken into account when calculating scores.

### **F – Route check-point**

The course designer may also place some route check-points (or tickets).

The fact that competitors have passed these route check-points must be validated by the check-point controller, and must involve one of the following:

- ◆ marking the route log book,
- ◆ giving the rider a ticket,
- ◆ using orienteering course type markers/hole-punches,
- ◆ or any other way that all competitors will have been informed about before starting the phase,
- ◆ the judge notes the competitor's time of passage on the record book and on his controller sheet.

It is strongly advised to use route-checks (tickets) when different competitors have different routes (e.g. odd numbers or even numbers) on part of a stage between two normal check-points.

Competitors are not intended to stop at route check-points, unless it is to validate their passage.

Nor is it intended to restore an interval between competitors.



### **G – Finish-line check-point**

Competitors will not be aware of its position. It can be located at any place along the route. Record books/cards must be handed over to the stewards who will inform competitors how to find the final POR vet's inspection and their allotted attendance time.

### **H – End of route check-point**

Competitors are aware of this check-point's position. In principle, it is at the entrance to the stables or horse quarters.

If the competitor has not gone through the finish-line check-point, the time that they pass through the end of route check-point will allow us to calculate penalty points that will be added to the penalties for missing the finish-line check-point.

### **I – Veterinary inspections**

- ◆ The first inspection will take place before the start of the event, preferably the day before.
- ◆ It shall in no instance be organised between the competitor marking down the route on the map and the start of the competitor on the POR.
- ◆ At the start, at certain checkpoints and at the finish line, a vet will check the condition of the horses. The vet can decide if a horse needs to be held temporarily or definitively stopped and his decision is final. There can be a veterinary inspection on the course, in which case it takes place 15 minutes after the arrival of the competitor at the designated checkpoint.
- ◆ After the POR, the vet's inspection takes place around 30 minutes after the return of the competitor to the finish-line check-point. The competitor can be accompanied by at most one groom.
- ◆ The competitor who misses the finish-line check-point must present his horse at the veterinary inspection within 30 minutes after passing the end of route check-point.
- ◆ The final Veterinary inspection will take place before the Control of Paces phase with the horse shod/unshod as per the rider's choice in preparation for the MA and PTV phases.
- ◆ The Ground Jury and/or the Veterinary Commission can carry out veterinary inspections at any point and at any time during the three phases of the event.

#### **Heart rate monitoring procedure:**

- ◆ The heart rate will be monitored before the other tests: the horse is presented to the vet 15 minutes after arriving at the inspection box.
- ◆ Its heart rate must be 64 beats per minute or under.
- ◆ Should the heart rate be over 64 beats/minute, the horse will be held; it may then be re-presented every 5 minutes, up to a maximum of 3 times.
- ◆ If the heart rate is still over 64 beats/minute 30 minutes after its arrival, the horse is eliminated from the phase.

#### **Lameness examination procedure:**

- ◆ This is carried out by trotting the horse in a straight line over a maximum distance of 20 metres, with its head free.
- ◆ Any horse with a distinct gait irregularity on each stride will be eliminated from the event.

#### **Examination procedure concerning the horse's condition and metabolism:**

- ◆ This is left entirely up to the vet's judgement.

### **Art 7.7 – Control of Paces**

This phase is intended to show that an outdoor rider can make his horse go calmly in canter and quickly in walk along a given path.

The first test is carried out at canter and the return is carried out at walk.

Horses go through the start line and the finish line at the requested gait.

The phase comprises two tests:

- ◆ Going in a slow canter along a 150 metre-long corridor marked on the ground, on reasonably level ground, 2 to 2.20 metres wide.
- ◆ Then going as quickly as possible at walk along a 150 metres corridor that is identical to the first one, or back along the same corridor.

## Art 7.8 - PTV

This phase is intended to highlight the high degree of training required for a trail riding horse, confidence, courage, handiness, balance, sure-footedness, as well as the correctness and appropriateness of the rider's aids and his experience in dealing with various natural obstacles.

It is the rider-horse combination that is tested.

The course is a logical succession of obstacles.

### A – Walking the course

The course can be walked by competitors to learn the route without their horse.

The time that the course is open and closed for course walking is set by the Jury and displayed.

The PTV course will be closed for walking half an hour before the first competitor starts.

### B – Start line and finish line

The start and finish lines must be marked with flags, as must the course obstacles. Horse and rider must pass between these flags.

### C - Course

The obstacles are numbered from 1 to 16. Flags, red on the right, white on the left and a number placed on the red flag pole.

Horse and rider must both pass between the flags which form an integral part of the obstacle in addition to its other features (height, width, length, etc.).

They must be tackled by competitors in numerical order.

### D – Gaits

The rider is free to choose the horse's gait between the obstacles, unless the Ground Jury have specified a speed for safety reasons.

If a rider circles or steps back between the obstacles he will be given 3 penalty points for a technical refusal the judge of the following obstacle. 3 technical refusals will result in a mark of 0 for this obstacle.

Breaking forward motion or change of gait (changing from one gait to another, or stopping) is only penalised whilst executing the obstacle itself (judged as soon as the front feet pass between the two obstacle entry flags and until the hind feet pass between the two obstacle exit flags). For a horse that changes gait on an obstacle with several options: canter, trot, walk, in addition to the resulting penalties in the effectiveness column, the lowest gait will be used in the gait column.

## VIII – PENALTIES

### Art 8.1 – Elimination

The following will be eliminated from the event:

- ◆ Competitors voluntarily retiring or disqualified during one of the phases,
- ◆ Competitors whose horse is stopped by the vet,
- ◆ Competitors assisted in finding the POR route or who communicate the route,
- ◆ Competitors found guilty of using unauthorised substances, according to current regulations in the International Equestrian Federation (FEI)
- ◆ Competitors found guilty of using an undeclared communication device during one of the phases (POR, MA, PTV) a GPS and / or communication device other than the mobile phone declared, extinguished and sealed in the card room. This leads to disqualification of the whole national team he belongs to: national team and individuals. Only mobile phones declared and sealed in the map room before the start may be in riders' possession.
- ◆ Competitors opening the pack and using the communication device, apart from reasons of safety or an accident involving a horse or a rider,
- ◆ Competitors who return to any POR control after arriving at any subsequent control (ie. going backwards along the route),
- ◆ Competitors presenting themselves after the official starting time for one of the phases,
- ◆ Competitors not crossing the finish line check-point nor the POR end of route check-point,
- ◆ Competitors who walk or try any of the courses on horseback,
- ◆ Competitors who are penalised for brutality by judges at 3 obstacles on the PTV.

## Art 8.2 – Definitions

### A - Refusal

A stop followed immediately by a straight jump, is not penalised.

The pony/horse may make a sidestep, but if he backs up, even by one step, this is considered a refusal. After a refusal, if the competitor tries again or repeats the movement unsuccessfully, or if the pony/horse is presented to the obstacle after backstepping, and if the pony/horse stops and steps back again, this is considered a second refusal, and so on.

### B – Run-out

A pony/horse is considered to have run-out if, when faced with the obstacle, he avoids crossing it in such a way that the rider has to present the pony/horse to the obstacle again.

### C - Circle

The competitor will be penalised for a circle if he/she re-crosses the path taken before crossing an obstacle. However, having been penalised for a refusal, run-out or fall, a competitor may circle without incurring a penalty point so that they can present the pony/horse to attempt the obstacle again.

### D – Brutality

During the PTV, the competitor is penalised of 5 points for any brutality.

It can be defined as:

- ◆ 1 whipping on the head
- ◆ More than 3 whippings behind the leg
- ◆ Hurting the horse's mouth with sudden or violent movements of the reins/bit
- ◆ An excessive or persistent use of lower leg or spurs
- ◆ Etc

### E – Rider fall

The fall must be seen by a judge to be taken into account.

A rider is considered to have fallen when there is involuntary physical separation between the pony/horse and the rider.

A zero score will be applied to the whole phase if a fall occurs during the MA and/or PTV.

The rider is stopped and must leave the phase on foot. The competitor must have a favourable opinion from the medical services to be able to continue the competition, and/or before leaving the competition.

### F – Loss of balance by a rider on foot

A rider leading a horse is considered to have lost their balance on foot when a part of his/her body touches the ground in order to keep his/her balance. It will be noted as a dangerous situation.

### G – Horse fall

A pony/horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and/or haunches touch the ground, or are stuck/grazed a part of an obstacle.

The rider is stopped and must leave the phase on foot. The horse must have a favourable opinion from the veterinary services to be able to continue the competition, and/or before leaving the competition.

### H –Course error

A course error is considered to have occurred when the rider:

- ◆ Does not complete the course according to the course plan.
- ◆ Does not go through the obstacles and start and finish lines in the proper order.
- ◆ Goes through an obstacle that is not part of the course or accidentally misses out an obstacle.
- ◆ Who does not cross the line of departure or arrival of the PTV,

This leads to a zero score on the PTV course.

## IX – COMPLAINTS

### Art 9.1 – Technical queries

For team competitions, technical queries should be submitted by the chef d'équipe. For individual events, they are submitted by the competitor concerned.

To be accepted, any technical query must be lodged with the Ground Jury President:

- ◆ If it concerns a technical problem or a question relating to the regulations, **before the results are displayed:**
  - For POR: within an hour of the last competitor finishing.
  - For PTV and CP: within half an hour of the last competitor finishing the phase in question.
- ◆ If it involves checking scores or their input into the computer system in the various tests for calculating results: at the latest within half an hour of the chefs d'équipe receiving a paper copy of the interim standings.

If the results of the first day's events cannot be published by 8 pm that day the announcement and the lodging of technical queries will be delayed until the following morning, ideally before the start of the veterinary inspection.

The Ground Jury's answer may be provided before the end of the competition.

The Ground Jury cannot accept video evidence to settle disputes.

### Art 9.2 – Complaints

Only the chef d'équipe can lodge a complaint against a competitor or a horse during an event or against the ranking of the latter or concerning its organisation or its running on his behalf, on behalf of the NETO that he represents and/or on behalf of a competitor who is a member of his team.

- ◆ To be valid, any complaint must be submitted to the Ground Jury President:
  - Before the start of the event, if it concerns the organisation of the competition, the qualification of competitors or horses,
  - At latest half an hour after the announcement/publication of each phase, if it concerns the phase and the definitive placings.
    - The right to lodge a complaint is exclusively reserved for competitors in individual events.
    - Any complaint must be made in writing, accompanied by the sum of 50 Euros which is retained by FITE in the instance of the complaint proving to be unsubstantiated.
    - No verbal complaints are admitted.
- ◆ Any unforeseen events outside of the organiser's control cannot be subject to a complaint.

### Art 9.3 – Reports

The Chefs d'équipe, officials and Organising Committee members must submit a report to the Ground Jury concerning any presumed acts of cruelty as regards to horses or other violations of the Articles and Regulations.

The Ground Jury, having listened to the parties concerned can impose the following:

- ◆ An oral or written warning
- ◆ A 50 to 500 Euro fine
- ◆ Disqualification for the current phase or for the rest of the event.

## X – RANKING / PRIZES

### Art 10.1 – Placings

#### A – World and/or European championship

The winner of the competition is either the competitor, the Duo or the team that obtained the highest number of points over all phases: POR, MA, PTV.

In the event of equality on the total points, equal placings are split according to the total points on the POR + PTV phases, should there still be equality it is the result of the POR which is preponderant.

A competitor can only be ranked for the event if they have participated without withdrawing or being eliminated and if they have been placed in each of the phases.

#### 1. Seniors and Young riders

A team comprises three or four competitors. The team placings will be calculated on the basis of the sum of the points of the best three members of each team.

A national team of three people can only be placed if its three representatives have been placed in the championship.

In no instance can the marks of a better placed individual rider be substituted for use in the team result. The individual placings, in which the team members will also figure, will be announced separately.

#### 2. Juniors

For the Duo ranking, the sum of the points of the two riders in the team will be used.

A national team composed of two Juniors can only be classified only if both its representatives have completed all three phases in the event. If one competitor is disqualified or eliminated, the other rider is allowed to participate in the other tests (MA and PTV).

~~For the team classification, the best Duo of each NETO is taken into account.~~

A ranking from a European and/or World Championship is taken into account if a minimum of 5 teams from 3 different nations are entered.

#### B – European Cup

In order to be considered for the final ranking, a competitor must have participated in at least 3 events in 2 different countries.

At least two countries must be represented.

The annual number of entries for a competitor is not limited.

The ranking is obtained by adding together the three best results for each competitor.

#### Points allocation scales

1<sup>st</sup> 30 points

2<sup>nd</sup> 25 points

3<sup>rd</sup> 20 points

4<sup>th</sup> 19, 5<sup>th</sup> 18, 6<sup>th</sup> 17, 7<sup>th</sup> 16, 8<sup>th</sup> 15, 9<sup>th</sup> 14, 10<sup>th</sup> 13, 11<sup>th</sup> 12, 12<sup>th</sup> 11, 13<sup>th</sup> 10, 14<sup>th</sup> 9, 15<sup>th</sup> 8, 16<sup>th</sup> 7, 17<sup>th</sup> 6, 18<sup>th</sup> 5, 19<sup>th</sup> 4, 20<sup>th</sup> 3, du 21<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> 2 and from 31<sup>st</sup> 1 point for each competitor in the ranking.

For each competitor, 1 point is added per tranche of 4 riders.

For example:

- For 38 riders ranked: 1<sup>st</sup>; 30 pts + 10 pts = 40 pts. 2<sup>nd</sup>; 25 pts + 10 = 35 pts. Etc.....

- For 21 riders ranked: 1<sup>st</sup>; 30 pts + 6 pts = 36 pts

Allocation of points will be doubled for foreign competitors.

In the event of equality of one or other of the three first places in the final ranking, competitors will be split as follows:

- ◆ by adding the final rankings of the three chosen events for each competitor,
- ◆ in case of further equality by the number of competitions,
- ◆ in case of further equality by the highest number of points obtained on one (or two) tests

**Art 10.2 – Prize giving**

The protocol for European and World championships is appended to the specifications.

The prize giving of the European Cup will be held on the European Championships and/or the World Championships in the following year.