

AERA RULEBOOK ©

Amendments to AERA RULEBOOK applicable from 1 January 2020

[NOTE: where part of a rule is amended, the full rule is included with changes identified in blue]

SECTION 1 - GENERAL RULES

CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION, DEFINITIONS AND COMPLIANCE

No changes

CHAPTER 2. DEFINITIONS & RIDE CONTROLS

No changes

CHAPTER 3. RIDE ORGANISING COMMITTEE

15. VET TO HORSE RATIO

15.1.1 When identifying the number of veterinarians required for an *event*, the *ROC* shall include all expected entries in all *rides* being conducted at the *event*.

- a) For *events* utilising the Standard ride control there shall be:
 - i. a minimum of 2 veterinarians for the first 60 horses or part thereof, and
 - ii. an additional veterinarian for every additional 30 horses.
- b) For *events* utilising the VGIH ride control there shall be:
 - i. a minimum of 2 veterinarians for the first 30 horses or part thereof, and
 - ii. an additional veterinarian for every additional 30 horses.

15.2 Not all appointed veterinarians need to be available for the pre-ride veterinary inspections.

15.3 When more than 3 vets are required to meet the vet:horse ratio, the vet team will include at least 2 accredited vets.

~~15.4 For rides of 120 kms or more in one day, a separate additional treatment veterinarian is required to be present at the ride base.~~

20. AWARDS

SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION AWARD

20.1 In all *rides*, all successful *riders* must receive a completion award with additional lucky draws permissible.

20.2 The *winner* of an *endurance* or *marathon ride* is the horse and *rider* combination from either of the middleweight or heavyweight riding divisions that successfully completes the *ride* in the shortest elapsed *riding time*.

20.3 *Line honours* goes to the first horse and *rider* combination from any riding division to successfully complete an *endurance* or *marathon ride*. *Line honours* may be acknowledged but the value of any trophy(s) and award(s) shall be of lesser value than the trophy(s) and award(s) provided to the *winner* of the *ride*.

20.4 Cash prize money is not permitted, and the total value of all prizes and/or trophies awarded to an individual *rider* must not exceed AU\$5,000 unless prior written approval has been obtained from the relevant DA and the AERA.

20.5 *Introductory, intermediate, micro-marathon* and *mini-marathon rides* are non-competitive with only completions being recognised. Completion times, place

positions, *BC* or *line honours* are not to be recognised at the presentation ceremony.

CHAPTER 4. RIDE OFFICIALS

No changes

CHAPTER 5. RIDER RULES

26. CODE OF CONDUCT

- 26.1 Every *participant* is under the control of the chief steward whenever they are present on the ride base or on course.
- 26.2 Every *rider* and their *support personnel* shall conduct themselves at all times:
- a) in a courteous, respectful and professional manner, and shall expect reciprocal courtesy, respect and professionalism from other persons with whom they interact, and
 - b) in a manner so as not to bring the Sport of Endurance into disrepute, and
 - c) in accordance with the AERA Social Media Engagement Rules.
- 26.3 Every rider is responsible and accountable, unless compelling circumstances (eg junior riders) dictate otherwise for the
- a) behaviour of their support personnel, and
 - b) behaviour of all persons in their camp,
 - c) appropriate containment of horse(s) and /or dog(s) in their camp, and
 - d) appropriate supervision of children in their camp.
- 26.4 Horses must be contained pursuant to Clause 54.
- 26.5 Dogs must be secured in a structure or on a leash [that is attached to a solid structure or a responsible human handler when at an endurance event.](#)
- 26.6 Any child under the age of eighteen years of age must be adequately supervised appropriate to their age and maturity. Bicycles, footballs and toys are to be kept well away from horses, horse yards and the vetring. It is recommended that juniors wear a helmet when handling a horse, particularly when in the vet ring with a horse.
- 26.7 Every rider is deemed prima facie the person responsible for the horse they ride.
- 26.8 Attendance at the *pre-ride briefing* is recommended for all *riders* and is mandatory for novice *riders*. Non- attendance at the *pre-ride briefing* is not an excuse for failure to comply with a specific ride requirement communicated at the *pre-ride briefing*.
- 26.9 The chief steward may eliminate a *rider* for an infringement of Clause 26.2 or Clause 26.3 by the *rider* or their *support personnel* depending upon the nature, severity and circumstances of the infringement.
- 26.10 The chief steward may eliminate a *rider* if he reasonably suspects that the *rider* is under the influence of any substance, or who is suffering from any medical condition, which may endanger the *rider's* personal welfare and/or the welfare of other *participants*. The *rider* must first be offered the option to withdraw pursuant to Clause 34.
- 26.11 It shall be considered a *serious infringement* should:
- d) a *rider* or their *support personnel* violate Clause 26.2, or
 - e) a *rider* misrepresents their age, identity or riding status.

DA MEMBERSHIP

- 27.3 Where membership of a DA is required to enter a ride, the rider shall be a member of the DA where the riders' principal place of residence is located. An exemption exists for riders whose principal place of residence is located in the region known as the Northern Rivers Zone of New South Wales as defined and determined by the AERA. Riders in the Northern Rivers Zone may choose to join either the Queensland Endurance Riders Association Inc. or the NSW Endurance Riders Association Inc.
- 27.4 The presentation of a current DA membership card shall *prima facie* be proof of membership. If a *rider* cannot produce a current DA membership card for whatever reason, the ride secretary may validate the membership through AeraSpace. If no membership card is produced and the membership cannot be validated through AeraSpace for whatever reason, the *rider* cannot enter a ride requiring such membership. [At every ride, riders should show their current membership card to the ride secretary and must have their membership number recorded on the ride entry form.](#)

28. RIDER STATUS

- 28.1 Every *rider* is deemed to be of novice *rider* status unless the *rider* has satisfied the requirements to progress to endurance *rider* status pursuant to Clause 29.3.
- 28.2 A *rider* may compete indefinitely at novice *rider* status [until they apply to upgrade](#) pursuant to Clause 29.

29. NOVICE RIDER RESTRICTIONS & REQUIREMENTS

- 29.1 A novice status *rider* shall:
- a) attend the *pre-ride briefing* or they may be eliminated by the chief steward before the start of the *ride*.
 - b) not enter a *marathon ride* of any distance.
 - c) successfully complete a minimum of two (2) *intermediate rides* before they are permitted to:
 - i. enter an *endurance ride* where the total distance of the *ride* is no longer than 120 km
 - ii enter a *mini-marathon ride*.
- 29.2 A novice status *rider* is subject to a minimum *riding time* for each individual leg of every *ride*. The minimum *riding time* is determined by the chief steward in consultation with the ROC and the head veterinarian.
- a) When the Standard *ride control* is used, the minimum *riding time* permitted for every individual leg cannot be less than the resultant calculation of dividing the distance of the leg by 14 km/hr.
 - b) When the VGIH *ride control* is used, the minimum *riding time* permitted for every individual leg cannot be less than the resultant calculation of dividing the distance of the leg by 14 km/hr. For the sole purpose of calculating the minimum riding time pursuant to this clause, the riding time will be deemed to cease when the rider is timed in off the course.
- 29.3 To progress from novice *rider* status to endurance *rider* status, the *rider* shall:
- a) Successfully complete two (2) *intermediate rides* as required in Clause 29.1 (c), and
 - b) Successfully complete three (3) *endurance rides* in any riding division, [and](#)
 - c) [Apply to their respective DA to have their rider status upgraded from novice to endurance status.](#)
- 29.4 ~~When a *rider* has satisfied Clause 29.3 they may apply to their respective DA to have their *rider* status upgraded from novice to endurance status.~~

CHAPTER 6. HORSE RULES

No changes

CHAPTER 7. VETERINARY CONTROLS & PROCEDURES

No changes

SECTION 2 – COMPLEMENTARY COMPETITION RULES

No changes

SECTION 3 – VETERINARY RULES

No changes

SECTION 4 – SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT RULES

No changes

SECTION 5 – EQUINE ANTI-DOPING & CONTROLLED MEDICATION RULES

No changes

SECTION 6 – RISK MANAGEMENT RULES

No changes