

Eventing Rule Amendment 2023

Background

The Eventing Committee have reviewed the rules regarding attending a Vet inspection and have identified the possibility that a rider exiting the Cross-Country Course before completion may by-pass a Vet inspection. The Vet is traditionally located at the finish line to assess horses as they complete this phase.

Current ruling is:

63 – Compulsory Inspection of Horses

All horses shall be inspected at the conclusion of the Cross-Country test by the Veterinary Surgeon or the Technical Delegate appointed for the task

The officials concerned shall have the power to order the withdrawal of any horse which they consider to be unfit for any further participation in the event.

Additional wording to be added:

An athlete who has retired, has been eliminated or stopped during the Cross-Country Test is responsible to make sure their Horse has been checked by the Veterinary or Technical Delegated appointed for the task. An athlete who leaves the venue without submitting to the veterinary check required under this Article will automatically be issued an Eventing Recorded Warning.

Rationale

All riders who complete the Cross-Country course are compelled under the Eventing Rules to attend a final veterinary check for welfare purposes. Should a rider retire on-course for any reason, the rules are silent on the rider attending a veterinary check. For welfare purposes it is essential that all horses have the opportunity to be reviewed, either by the Vet or the Technical Delegate. It is of concern that currently a horse is retired partway through the Cross-Country phase and returns to their float via the shortest route. This can lead to confusion in the score room as the horse and rider “disappear”. By requiring them to present to the finish line and the Vet or Technical Delegate we will ensure they are marked off on our records as having retired, and a welfare check of the horse will also be carried out. It will ensure riders are accountable and all actions are recorded transparently.

Affiliated with - Pony Club Australia - The Pony Club – UK - Equestrian Australia - WA Horse Council - WASF



Department of
Local Government, Sport
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