



Section 5:

Eventing Derby



HORSE COUNCIL
BRITISH COLUMBIA

Horse Council British Columbia

Rule Book 2026

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www.hcbc.ca

Horse Council BC (HCBC)

Recognized by the Government of British Columbia
as the official organization for Equestrian Sport in BC

Every eventuality cannot be provided for in these rules.

It is the duty of the officials and the competition management to make informed decisions in a fair and sporting spirit, approaching as near as possible the intention of these rules, and in doing so protecting the reputation of the sport and the welfare of the horse.

All Competition Organizers hosting HCBC sanctioned competitions, should be familiar with the HCBC rules and policies and should have copies available for the use of exhibitors, parents, volunteers and officials.

The HCBC Rules are reviewed annually and posted on the HCBC website. Submissions for recommended rule changes will be considered until October 1st annually and reviewed for inclusion to the next years' rule book.

Aims, Goals and Objectives

- To ensure that Competition Organizers have the tools and support they need to operate within the recognized sport framework, follow current safety rules and guidelines and be aware of the risk management that is necessary and of the utmost importance for hosting a well-planned, successful competition.
- To provide HCBC sanctioned competitions the support and governance of the current Horse Council BC Rule Book.
- To develop, grow and retain a deep pool of well-educated and knowledgeable officials.
- To capture the activity that demonstrates the value of Equestrian Sport to the government at all levels.
- To provide, through education, participation in a quality structured, grass roots competition system and a well-planned development pathway, a feeder system that will grow and strengthen the development of the discipline sports and equestrian athletes.

Horse Council BC welcomes and encourages all grassroots and entry-level competition organizers to sanction their shows with HCBC. By doing so, the equestrian sport community in BC can work together to ensure an enjoyable and affordable environment within a fair playing field that supports the growth and success of equestrian sport in BC.

Horse Welfare Statement

Statement

HCBC members are responsible for ensuring the well-being, safety, and humane treatment of any equine entrusted to their care. The welfare of the horse shall always take precedence over competition, training goals, or personal objectives. Horses must be treated with dignity, respect, and compassion at all times. The welfare of the horse is paramount. Any inhumane treatment or the abuse of a horse by any person at an approved HCBC show is forbidden.

Scope

This statement applies to all HCBC members, coaches, officials, volunteers, owners, competitors, and any person responsible for the care or handling of a horse participating in HCBC events.

Humane Treatment

- Horses must never be subjected to abuse, neglect, or inhumane handling.
- All handling and training practices must align with generally accepted equine care and competition standards. The standard by which conduct, or treatment will be measured is that which a person who is informed and experienced in generally accepted equine training and competition practices would determine to be neither cruel, abusive, nor inhumane.

Responsibility of Care

- Individuals who own, use, or care for horses must exercise skill, compassion, and sound judgment.
- All horses, regardless of financial value or competitive status, must be protected from mistreatment.

Prohibited Practices

- The use of equipment, devices, medications, or substances that alter performance, appearance, or natural function in an unethical or unsafe way is strictly forbidden.
- Any form of inhumane training technique, coercion, or excessive force is prohibited.

Event Requirements

- At HCBC-approved events, horses must be managed to ensure their physical and psychological well-being.
- Any suspected inhumane treatment must be reported immediately to event officials or HCBC representatives.
- It is recommended that competition management include a formal statement in the show program or prize list detailing their commitment to humane horse care and the disciplinary actions that will be enforced for confirmed abuse at a recognized event.

Enforcement

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, including removal from events, suspension of membership, or further action as outlined in HCBC disciplinary procedures.

Bio Security

It is strongly recommended that horses be up to date on vaccinations and in good health to perform.

Vaccinations offer horses protection from some infectious diseases, but do not eliminate disease risk. Vaccination guidelines vary by region. This should be taken into consideration when weighing the risk for exposure. While there are costs associated with vaccines, those costs are generally much lower than the costs associated with an infectious disease.

Show management has the right and duty to demand removal of a horse from the grounds if it is deemed unfit to compete. Competition management may enforce vaccination requirements for their competition or venue.

A request for supporting documentation confirming a horse's compliance with mandatory vaccination requirements is an acceptable condition of entry.

For more information on bio security practice please visit <https://hcbc.ca/welfare/disease-animal-health/>

Fair and Inclusive Field of Play

HCBC is committed to providing a fair, safe, and inclusive field of play for all participants at Horse Council BC sanctioned competitions and events. Every competitor, official, volunteer, and supporter has the right to engage in an environment that is respectful, equitable, and free from discrimination. All participants must be treated with dignity and respect, regardless of age, gender, identity, ability, background, or experience. The integrity of competition depends on ethical conduct, transparency, and accountability from everyone involved.

- Participants should educate themselves on safe sport principles, ethical conduct, reporting procedures, and prevention of maltreatment.
- Officials and coaches are expected to model safe, positive, and ethical behavior.
- Concerns related to unsafe behavior, misconduct, or maltreatment must be reported promptly to event management or the designated safe sport authority.
- Reports will be taken seriously, handled confidentially, and addressed according to established procedures.

For more information visit: <https://hcbc.ca/sport/competition/safe-sport/>

Helmet Policy

Horse Council BC (HCBC) strongly recommends that anyone riding or driving a horse should wear ASTM/SEI/BSI/BS EN; EN; AS/NZS; CE VGI approved protective headgear, specifically designed for equestrian activities. ASTM (American Society for Testing Materials); SEI (Safety Equipment Institute, Inc.); BSI/BS EN (British Standards Institution); EN (European Union Standards); AS/NZS (Australian/New Zealand Standards); or CE VG1 01.040 2014-12 (provided they are BSI Kitemarked).

The helmet should be properly fitted with safety harness correctly secured, while mounted, riding or driving. Riders/drivers are encouraged to be fitted for their helmet with their typical riding/driving hairstyle. If your hair changes significantly (length, volume, style), rechecking helmet fit is required. It is advised that long hair be neatly tied in a low ponytail, smoothing hair flat, and avoiding bulky buns or high knots inside the helmet shell.

Youth competitors must wear properly fitted approved ASTM, SEI, BSI/BS EN, EN, AS/NZS/ or CE VG1 protective headgear, with safety harness correctly secured while mounted on the competition or event grounds and in ALL classes and Performance Divisions.

Exception:

The wearing of religious headwear will be accepted for riders/drivers without penalty. The option to wear an approved sports turban helmet for all ages is strongly advised.

Helmets are not required for vaulting.

Concussion Policy

Resources: For concussion education and awareness resources, please visit the Concussion Awareness page on the HCBC website www.hcbc.ca.

Definition: A concussion is a type of traumatic brain injury (or TBI), caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head that can change the way the brain normally works. Concussions can also occur from a fall or a blow to the body that causes the head and brain to move quickly back and forth. All concussions are serious.

Policy Statement: Anyone participating in an activity with horses should understand the signs, symptoms and implications of sustaining a concussion.

It is recommended by health care professionals that anyone presenting symptoms or suspected of sustaining a concussion should cease the activity until they have been evaluated and cleared by medical personnel.

Anyone having contact with, or handling horses is responsible to educate themselves on the prevention and proper management of concussion related injuries.

All Coaches and Instructors recognized by Horse Council BC will be required to participate in concussion awareness training once in every three-year period to maintain current certification status.

Liability

The Horse Council BC (HCBC) Competition Committee, HCBC and co-sponsoring organization, if any, will not be responsible for any accident, injury of horse or person or loss or damage of any article of any kind or nature that may be lost or destroyed or in any way damaged that may occur to, or be caused by, any horse exhibited at a competition.

Each exhibitor, agent or horse owner will be responsible for any injury that may be occasioned to any person, animal or damage to any property while on the competition grounds, by any horse owned, exhibited or in custody or control and shall indemnify and hold harmless HCBC, its officials, staff and Directors individually and collectively, and any co-sponsoring organization, from and against any and all claims, demands, cause of action costs, charges and expenses of every kind or nature whatsoever arising out of, or which may be caused by, or incurred by, reason of the ownership, exhibition, custody or control of any animal exhibited.

HCBC will not be responsible for any financial arrangements between show management, exhibitors, owners, agents, or officials.

All federal, provincial and city laws will be adhered to and shall supersede these rules.

Safety

It is essential that every sanctioned competition/event have an emergency action plan in place.

Competitions must ensure that a First Aid kit is always readily available.

A competition or event must have qualified medical personnel appointed for the duration of the competition who is trained in first aid and emergency medical treatment.

Qualified medical personnel may be defined as the following:

- Doctor
- Professional emergency personnel, such as EMT or Paramedic
- An adult with recognized and valid First Aid certification who is not competing. This individual may act in some other capacity at the competition providing this does not restrict their availability to all areas on the competition grounds.

It is recommended that the minimum certification required for qualified medical personnel be Standard First Aid Certification.

The facility address, emergency contact name and phone number should be posted at the show office and in other appropriate locations for the benefit of the exhibitors and public at any time.

Emergency Phone Numbers: veterinarian, farrier, nearest hospital name and address should be posted at the show office and in other appropriate locations for the benefit of the exhibitors and public at any time.

It is recommended that all shows arrange for a veterinarian and farrier to be available either on-call or on the show grounds for the duration of the show.

In the event where an accident occurs at an HCBC sanctioned competition or event, Accident Report Forms must be filled out and returned to HCBC. Accident Report Forms will be emailed to all organizers as part of the sanctioning package, but can be found on the HCBC website at <https://hcbc.ca/competitions/competition-documents/>

If a competitor suffers a fall in warm-up, on the field of play or anywhere on the competition grounds during hours of the competition, they must be evaluated by the attending medic. Competitors are solely responsible for ensuring on-site medical assistance takes place. If a competitor refuses evaluation, Competition Management may make the decision to disqualify the competitor from the competition.

Administration

Sanctioning

Any organization, club, individual or group may apply to Horse Council British Columbia (HCBC) to sanction an entry level competition or event offering any of the disciplines outlined in the HCBC Rule Book. There is no restriction to prize money offered at the competition.

All management, officials and volunteers at HCBC sanctioned events are held to the HCBC Code of Conduct. For more information visit: <https://hcbc.ca/sport/competition/safe-sport/>

The Person Responsible listed on application must be a current HCBC member and is responsible for the conduct of the competition in accordance with the current Horse Council BC Rule Book.

Organizers must apply through the HCBC/Horse Sport Pro online event sanctioning portal.

All required information, prize list, entry forms and a current, endorsed certificate of insurance must be provided.

Competition applications and all required documentation must be submitted through the online system, preferably at least one month prior to the competition or event date(s).

The competition must be approved before publishing, posting online or circulating the prize list.

Instructions for login and links to the online application process are available on the Competition page of the HCBC website. <https://hcbc.ca/competitions/organizers/>

Every competition must obtain a certificate of insurance endorsed by the insurance carrier to cover law suits, claims or judgment for bodily injury or property damage sustained by spectators, participants, or others arising out of the use of the show grounds or operation necessary or incidental to the show.

All approved competitions will be emailed a Competition Package including a HCBC Certificate of Sanction which is to be printed and displayed in the Competition Office, or other clearly visible location.

The Competition Organizer is required to provide a copy of the approved Competition Prize List to the Official(s).

Competitions or Events should not start earlier than the time listed in prize list or advertised in the schedule.

Competitions sanctioned with another discipline or breed association may apply for dual sanctioning with Horse Council BC for specific divisions. Discipline or Breed Association rules may supersede HCBC rules at a dual sanctioned show in some divisions.

Clubs may include local club rules provided the local rules do not compromise the integrity and safety standards of Horse Council BC sanctioned competition. Any local club rules must be stated clearly in the Prize List and be approved by Horse Council BC during the application process.

Sanctioning Fees

The fee for sanctioning a Horse Council BC Provincial Competition is \$42.00 per competition.

Payment of fees can be processed by credit card through the HCBC Online Sanctioning Portal or by mailing a cheque to the HCBC office.

Sanction fees are not refundable.

An NSF charge of \$75.00 will be applied for any returned fees.

Prize List

All Prize Lists must contain the following disclaimer:

It is the responsibility of the show/event committee, or competition organizers and the facility owners and managers to ensure that all BC Health Authority and WorkSafeBC directives are followed and enforced. Horse Council is not a regulatory body, and it is understood and agreed that sanctioning and approval of a HCBC Provincial competition / event relates to the use of the rule book and approved officials only.

This Competition is a Horse Council BC provincially sanctioned competition and will be governed in accordance with the Horse Council BC Rule Book. Knowledge of the rules is the responsibility of Competition Management, Officials and Competitors.

The Horse Council BC Rule Book, can be found at www.hcbc.ca

<https://hcbc.ca/resource-category/sport-competition/>

Neither Horse Council BC, its Board of Directors, organizing committee, staff, volunteers, officials, or employees of the horse show, will be responsible in any way, for damage, injury, or loss to persons, horses or property of exhibitors, spectators, owners, riders, trainers, or grooms. All competitors and owners of horses must be members of Horse Council BC to participate.

Prize Lists must include:

- The exact competition name, date, and location of the competition (it is recommended a map and/or directions to the competition grounds be included)
- **Management:** List of competition officials (Show Committee, Manager, Entry Secretary, Judges, Course Designers, Provincial Rules Official)
- **Veterinarian:** Name and telephone number of the veterinarian. If on call, the phone number where he/she can be reached during the competition
- **Farrier:** Name and telephone number of the farrier. If on call, the phone number where he/she can be reached during the competition
- Type of Competition
- Entry deadline.
- Entry Blank: waiver and entry agreement
- **Statement:** Competition will be run in accordance with the current Horse Council BC Rule Book. Every class offered which is covered by the rules and specifications of the current HCBC Rule Book be conducted and judged in accordance as such.
- Any local club rules must be stated clearly in the Prize List and be approved by Horse Council BC during the application process
- **HCBC Prizelist Disclaimer** (This must be included in its entirety and placed in a conspicuous position in the prize list and or entry form
- Horse Welfare Statement, (HCBC or Club) <https://hcbc.ca/resource-category/sport-competition/>

- Bio security/vaccination statement
- Fees Statement regarding entry fees, prizes offered in each class
- Refund policy
- Classes numbers and specifications
- Any Age Categories or horse/pony size where classes will be split.
- **Statement:** Management reserves the right to cancel or combine any class that does not have sufficient entries
- **Statement:** regarding post entries or day of adds (are they allowed)
- **Statement:** regarding Hors Concours entries (not to be judged, whether or not Hors Concours rounds are allowed)
- **Statement:** of type of footing available in warm-up areas and competition arenas (example: jumping will be held on grass)
- Number of placings for ribbons in each class and if there are trophies, prizes and /or prize money.
- **Statement:** Prize Money Payment: as to when and how the prize money will be paid (recommended (maximum of 30 days following the competition.)
- Types of Championships or/and Aggregates and how points will be determined.
- .Any special venue rules eg: minors operating motorized vehicles/scooters/bicycles.
- Motorized vehicle statement: If motorized vehicles are prohibited from show grounds, the motorized vehicle statement must still be published in the prize list.
- Dogs allowed or prohibited
- Other statements such as, competition numbers must be worn on competition grounds

Prize and Awards

If prize money is offered in any classes, the amounts and class entry fee must be specified in the Prizelist. Prize money distribution by total percentage breakdown or dollar amount by placings for each class where prize money is offered must be clearly stated.

Show management must make the full payment of prize monies as specified in the competition Prize List.

If High Point Awards are to be presented at the competition, the method of tabulating points for such awards is at the discretion of show management and must be stated in the Prize List.



The following schedule of ribbons is recommended:

First Place	Red
Second place	Blue
Third Place	White
Fourth Place	Yellow
Fifth Place	Green
Sixth Place	Pink
Seventh Place	Purple
Eighth Place	Brown
Champion	Red, Blue, White
Reserve Champion	Blue, White, Yellow

The following point scale may be used for tabulating High Point Awards:

# in class	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
1	1							
2	2	1						
3	3	2	1					
4	4	3	2	1				
5	5	4	3	2	1			
6	6	5	4	3	2	1		
7	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	
8	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
9 - 15	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2
16 - 20	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
21 - 25	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4
26- 30	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5
31 - 35	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6
36 - 40	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7



Section 1:

General Competition Rules

These are general competition rules only, please see discipline sections for discipline specific rules and exceptions.

1.1 Entries

All exhibitors are required to be current Horse Council BC members when participating in HCBC sanctioned events.

Exception: Lead Line competitors must be accompanied by an adult holding current HCBC membership. Lead line participants may not cross enter into any other classes at the competition.

1.1.1. Hours concours (H/C) Entries:

Hors Concours entries may be accepted at the discretion of the organizing committee. The competition's policy regarding Hors Concours entries must be clearly stated in the prize list.

Hors Concours entries must pay the same entry fee as regular entries (unless otherwise stated in the prize list) and are subject to the same conditions and rules which apply to regular entries.

Hors Concours entries are not eligible for prizes or awards.

1.1.2. Youth Entries

The age limit for a youth competitor is 18 years of age or younger as of January 1st of the current year. A person born on January 1st shall assume the older age as of that date.

Proof of youth's age may be required on entry forms at HCBC sanctioned competitions.

All entry forms for youth exhibitors 18 years of age and under must be signed by parent or legal guardian.

Youth competitors must wear properly fitted approved ASTM, SEI, BSI/BS EN, EN, AS/NZS/ or CE VG1 protective headgear, with safety harness correctly secured at all times while mounted on the competition or event grounds and in ALL classes and Divisions.

Exception: Vaulting

The Youth competitor need not own or lease the horse he or she is competing with to enter any class.

A horse or pony may be entered in any youth age division.

Youth competitors may not show a stallion in any class, regardless of the age or size of the stallion.

1.1.3. Dogs

Dogs are permitted on the competition grounds **at the discretion of Management** and must be on a leash at all times. The prize list must clearly state one of the following:

- “No dogs allowed on the premises.”
OR
- “Dogs are allowed on the premises but must remain on a leash and under control at all times. Dogs are not permitted in warm-up areas on the field of play or at ingates.”

This restriction applies to all dogs, including service dogs and emotional support animals (ESAs).

Persons who rely on a service dog due to a disability may request accommodation under applicable laws (e.g., the BC Human Rights Code and the Guide Dog and Service Dog Act). Each request will be considered on a case-by-case basis, considering safety, competition integrity, and venue limitations. Emotional support animals, which are not recognized as service animals under BC law, do not have the same legal access rights.

1.1.4. Competition Numbers

Competition numbers must be issued by the Show Secretary to each entered horse and must be visible at all times while the horse is competing.

Competition numbers are available for purchase through the HCBC website <https://store.hcbc.ca/>

1.1.5. Officials

HCBC-sanctioned events must be officiated by current, certified Provincial Officials, or by an authorized/approved guest-carded official.

Officials with expired status or recognized by another organization may be used, with a guest card, provided they meet the requirements for that discipline as set out by the body/association responsible for said discipline.

All provincial officials must be current members of Horse Council BC and be listed on the competition or event application. In the event that an official must be substituted, Horse Council BC is to be notified immediately and provided with the name and contact info of the substitute.

Judges are licensed, educated officials. Designation as a judge is considered a privilege and with this comes upholding standards of integrity and ethical decision making. Judges are personally responsible for the decisions made and these are considered final. All judges are responsible for ensuring that horses are treated with kindness, compassion and respect and are not subjected to mistreatment or undue stress. Judges believe in the competitor, and decisions and placings are to be made to assist the competitor in their development. Comments/feedback are meant to be helpful to the competitor. If time permits after the class, the judge may provide feedback.

It is strongly recommended that for the protection of both the official and the competition management, a written contract be completed between both parties.

Officials should arrive on the competition grounds at least ½ before the first class begins.

The Judge's decision is considered as final in all classes.

1.1.5 Officials (cont.)

Judges must be provided with the Prize List and any tests, courses or patterns they will be judging at the competition.

Judges may not be approached without the presence of and prior arrangement with management and or a Provincial Rules Official (PRO).

Judges must be provided before the start of competition (or earlier) with the Prize List and any tests, courses or patterns they will be judging at the competition.

An official shall not discuss the purchase, sale, or lease of a horse with any exhibitor during a show at which that official is officiating.

An official shall not be an exhibitor, rider, driver, trainer, coach, handler, manager, or conditioner of any horse at any show or event at which they are officiating.

A judge may not act as course designer at the same competition in which they are judging.

No horse may be shown under an official that has acted in the capacity as an owner, coach, trainer, agent, or conditioner of the horse, within 30 days prior to the event, 14 days if the official is presiding over a virtual/online event and is not judging entries in person.

The Official must comply with class specifications and rules governing individual classes. (Class specifications should be noted and included on all class judge's cards where possible.)

Officials are prohibited from using tobacco and/or alcohol products, cellular phones, pagers or electronic communication devices in the arena or judges' booth.

Exception: Electronic devices may be used in relation to and if relevant to the competition.

All Officials must always dress appropriately and professionally during competitions (no jeans, shorts, tank tops, etc.)

1.1.6. Competition Management

- Competition Management, Show Committee and Officials are bound by the HCBC Code of Conduct
- Competition Management may not be an exhibitor, rider, driver, judge, course designer, trainer, coach, handler or conditioner of any horse at any show or event they are managing.

1.1.7. Provincial Rules Officials

HCBC Provincial Rules Officials (PRO) may attend provincially sanctioned competitions to offer help and guidance with HCBC rules, assist competition management with the development and rule content in prize lists as well as address questions or concerns arising at a competition. Provincial Rules Officials attendance at competitions will aid to encourage a safe and enjoyable competition experience for both horses and competitors.

1.1.7 Provincial Rules Officials (cont.)

All Provincial Championship designated competitions must have a PRO in attendance.

Provincial Rules Officials are appointed by and will be assigned by HCBC to competitions as requested by competition management or by the HCBC office.

Provincial Rules Officials are governed by the HCBC Officials' Code of Conduct and protocol.

1.1.8. Officials Protocol / Conflict of Interest

Provincially certified officials are trained and qualified in the principles of their respective disciplines and are bound by the HCBC Code of Conduct. Certification as a provincial official is a privilege that carries an expectation of integrity, professionalism, and ethical decision-making. Officials are accountable for the decisions they make, and those decisions are considered final. This responsibility is taken seriously.

All provincial officials are responsible for ensuring that horses are treated with kindness, compassion, and respect, and are never subjected to mistreatment or undue stress. Actions should always align with what an informed and experienced horseperson would consider neither cruel, abusive, nor inhumane. When welfare concerns arise, officials are expected to intervene in accordance with the standards and rules of the governing body.

Provincial officials also play an educational role. They are expected to support, encourage, and contribute to the development of competitors. Decisions made during competition should help guide competitors in their equestrian pursuits, and feedback should be constructive, fair, and aimed at promoting growth. While judges must evaluate individual performances objectively, competitors should be appropriately recognized for their achievements within the standards of the discipline.

Comments and feedback are intended to be helpful to the competitor. When time permits, judges may discuss performances with competitors during the awarding of placings. Additional time for discussion is encouraged, subject to show management's discretion and the judge's availability.

1.1.9. Guest Cards

Uncertified officials may be permitted to officiate at provincially sanctioned competitions under the following conditions:

- Individuals must have extensive experience and knowledge of the discipline being judged and of the current HCBC Rule Book.
- Uncertified officials may be requested to provide HCBC with a minimum of two references.
- Guest card application must be completed during the competition approval application process.
- HCBC will approve a maximum of three guest cards for an uncertified official. Once three guest cards have been issued, any additional guest card applications for that individual will be subject to a \$25.00 fee, charged to the competition. The guest-carded official will then be encouraged to participate in the HCBC Officials Program to obtain provincial certification.



1.1.10. Support Roles (scribes, ingates, timers, jump crew, etc.)

- Those in competition support roles such as scribes, ingates, timers, jump crew, etc. should arrive and check in with the competition office at least forty-five (45) minutes before the start of the competition. This will allow for enough time to gather any paperwork, tests, bell, whistle etc. or any other equipment needed.
- Cell phones (or any other personal electronic device) must be turned off during competition
- All test sheets must be completed in ink. Pencil is not permitted.
- It is the duty of the scribe to ensure that the test sheets include the competitor's entry number, class, description, and Judge's signature if required.
- Before the test sheet is handed in for calculation, the scribe must ensure the test has been reviewed and signed by the Judge.
- Those in support roles must be appropriately dressed (clean and neat, no cut offs, tank tops, etc.)

1.1.11. Elimination / Disqualification

Elimination From a Class

- After an entry enters the arena, if either the horse or the exhibitor becomes ill or is injured and cannot continue, the entry shall be eliminated from that class.
- Obvious unsoundness shall be cause for elimination in all classes. The judge has sole authority to make this determination, which is final and not subject to appeal or protest.
- All horses must be serviceably sound. Any horse showing unsoundness, broken wind, or impairment of vision shall be refused an award.
- Lack of complying to required appointments for a class will result in elimination of the competitor in that class specifying required appointments.
- The judge shall have the authority to eliminate any entry from a class who at their discretion is not under sufficient control and or considered by the judge to be a safety risk.

Disqualification From the Competition

- All artificial appliances are prohibited in any class.
- Any incident in contravention of the HCBC Horse Welfare Statement may at the judge's or Provincial Rules Officials' discretion result in disqualification of the competitor from participating in the remainder of the competition.
- The judge, Provincial Rules Official and/or competition management have the authority to disqualify and or remove from the competition any exhibitor, owner, coach or agent, for cruelty or abuse of a horse or exhibitor.

1.1.12. Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Any unsportsmanlike conduct by an owner, exhibitor, agent, or spectator including but not limited to abuse of one's horse, excessive use of foul language, intoxication anywhere on the grounds of the event, blatant disrespect for any other attendee at the event, or any other detrimental conduct shall jeopardize their right to further exhibit at the competition.

At any time, the judge, provincial rules official and/or competition management, may issue a first warning to any exhibitor, owner, or agent for any unsportsmanlike conduct. Upon failure to comply with this warning, the exhibitor, owner, agent, or spectator shall be disqualified from any further participation at the competition.

Any elimination from a class or disqualification from a sanctioned competition for unsportsmanlike conduct by any person may be reviewed by the HCBC disciplinary committee and or applicable breed or discipline association.

No points or awards may be given to any person or person's horses if they are disqualified from a sanctioned competition or event for any unsportsmanlike conduct.

1.1.13. Protests

Protests for any violation of HCBC competition/event rules at any HCBC sanctioned competition/event may be filed by an exhibitor, owner, trainer, spectator and or parent of a youth exhibitor within 12 hours of the incident occurring at the competition or event.

A recommended first step is that an inquiry be made through a member of the competition show management committee or PRO regarding a decision. Should the competitor not be satisfied with the result of the inquiry, an official protest must be lodged to competition management. At no time may the judge be approached directly unless the competition specifically prints an exception to this policy. In the event contact with the judge is permitted, at no time will abusive or confrontational language or gesturing be tolerated, under penalty of elimination and possible further disciplinary action initiated.

No protest will be recognized unless it is accompanied by a deposit of \$100.00 in cash, which shall be forfeited if the protest is not sustained.

Neither HCBC nor any organizing committee of the competition will recognize any protest that is not in writing, not signed, or not accompanied by the protest fee.

An official of the competition /event, a director of HCBC, or Provincial Rules Official may file a claim at any HCBC sanctioned competition/event to either the competition committee or the Board of Directors of HCBC for any violation of HCBC recognized event rules.

Any protest shall be adjudicated by a Protest Committee. The protest committee will consist of a maximum of three people, (a PRO and members of the organizing committee.)



1.1.13 Protests (cont.)

Protest Procedure

Upon receiving a protest or a dispute, the Protest Committee shall promptly hold a hearing and obtain from any witnesses, all necessary information and evidence.

All persons directly involved and concerned shall be immediately notified and given the opportunity to attend a hearing.

The Protest Committee shall then adjudicate the issue impartially, make effective its decision upon the parties of interest and report its decision to the parties of interest. A report of the decision shall also be given to the HCBC Manager of Competition and Sport

Protest Appeals

An appeal of a Protest Committee's decision may be made to the HCBC Manager of Competition and Sport.

Appeals must be made in writing within 20 days of the date of the Protest Committee's decision and must be accompanied by an appeal fee of \$300.00 payable to Horse Council BC.

The hearing on the appeal shall be heard within a 30-day period from date of filing.

The Appeal Committee of the Board of Directors of HCBC shall consist of two members of the HCBC Board plus one member from the competition organizing committee.

The competition organizing committee of a competition at which a protest is lodged and upheld, must hold all awards, points and prize money for the protested classes in escrow for a placed horse and all following horses, until after a 20-day appeal deadline has passed.

If no appeal is filed, then such awards, points and/or prize money will be awarded at the end of the appeal deadline.



Section 5:

Eventing Derby

5.1 General

The Horse Council BC Eventing Derby competition format presents great learning and development opportunities for both horses and riders.

The HCBC Eventing Derby format includes Dressage, Show Jumping and Eventing Derby Phases. Competitions may include all three phases or a combination of Dressage and Show Jumping or Dressage and an Eventing Derby. The Eventing Derby phase consists of a combination of both Show Jumps and natural or Cross-Country type obstacles.

A horse may only be entered in one level per competition.

At management's discretion, coaches may assist their riders while on course.

5.2 Attire

Attire

- Solid coloured breeches or jodhpurs.
- Riders must wear riding boots (plain, laced or with zippers) black or brown in colour with heels (tall boots or jodhpur/paddock boots).
- Half chaps may be worn with paddock boots if they are well fitted and are of matching colour to the boots
- ALL competitors of all ages must wear properly fitted, approved BSI or ASTM protective headgear, with safety harness correctly secured at all times while mounted.
- Helmets are mandatory for all riders.
- Riders should be fitted for their helmet wearing their usual riding hairstyle to ensure a proper and secure fit.
- If a rider's hair changes significantly in length, volume, or style, a helmet fit check is required.
- Long hair should be neatly tied in a low ponytail or braid, keeping hair smooth and flat under the helmet. Bulky buns or high knots that interfere with the helmet's fit should be avoided. The use of a hair net is strongly recommended.
- Long or short sleeve collared shirt
- Show jackets are recommended For Dressage and Show Jumping phases
- In case of inclement weather riders may wear a suitable warm or waterproof jacket and waterproof rain breeches.
- In extreme humidity or temperature, the judge may permit riders to ride without jackets
- Gloves are required (black or brown gloves are recommended for Dressage, Show Jumping and Derby but white gloves are also permitted for Dressage)

5.2.1. Eventing Derby Phase Attire:

- An equestrian body protector safety vest **MUST** be worn according to manufacturer instructions. BETA or ASTM standard body protectors are highly recommended. Inflatable vests are allowed but must be worn according to manufacturer instructions. Appropriate light weight clothing, any colour shirt with suitable short or long sleeves (not sleeveless or cap sleeve). Breeches or jodhpurs and gloves - any colour
- Body protectors may be worn in all Derby phases without penalty.

5.3 Tack and Equipment

(see 4.1 English General Rules)

The following are Eventing specific and are in addition to, or exception of the English General Rules.

Section 4.1.6 of English General Rules does not apply to Section 5 Eventing

a. Permitted Bits

- Bits must be smooth with a solid surface and no sharp edges on center links and must not put mechanical restraint on the horse's tongue or cause discomfort or pain to the horse
 - Snaffle bits, must be made of metal, durable plastic, synthetic material or flexible rubber
 - Snaffle bits may be: loose ring, D-ring, egg-butt, full cheek, rotating mouthpiece, jointed or double jointed with center roller
- Kimberwick
- Pelham
- Gentle, slow twists may be permitted for Show Jumping and Derby phases
- Only snaffle bits may be used in the dressage phase

b. Bridles

English style correctly fitted black or brown leather bridles with reins (reins may be any type, i.e.: laced, plain, rolled or rubber)

- Permitted Bridles:
 - Snaffle
 - Double
 - Miklem
 - Bitless bridles may be used with or without a noseband dependent on approval of Show Management prior to start of competition
- The fit of the noseband must be closely regulated to ensure the welfare and comfort of the horse. Nosebands must not be done up so tight that it causes harm to the horse and should be done up to allow one or two fingers to fit under the noseband. The noseband should be placed so it does not press on the end of the delicate nasal bone or the sensitive branches of the facial nerves. Two (adult) stacked fingers (approximately 1.5 cm or 1 inch) should fit between the flat part of the horse's face and the noseband.



5.3. Tack and Equipment (cont.)

c. Saddles

- Well fitted English style saddle with stirrups
- Saddle Pad appropriate to the saddle, white, natural or conservative colour
- Peacock/safety stirrups are not permitted
- Side Saddles are permitted

d. Prohibited Equipment

- Wire or hard twisted bits are not permitted in any phase
- Tie downs and draw reins
- Tongue ties
- Blinkers
- Standing martingales

5.4 Elimination

- Any exhibitor receiving unauthorized assistance by a second person inside or outside the competition arena may be eliminated at the discretion of management and the judge.
- Any exhibitor striking a horse forwards of the girth with any object including the hands may be eliminated.
- Excessive schooling or training.
- Failure of the exhibitor to wear the correct number in a visible manner.
- Use of Earphones/Earbuds and/or other electronic communication devices in the competition arena

5.5 Officials

5.5.1. Dressage

Provincially certified or Horse Council BC approved guest carded uncertified Dressage judge

5.5.2. Show Jumping

Provincially certified or Horse Council BC approved guest carded uncertified Jumper Judge

Provincially certified or Horse Council BC approved guest carded uncertified Course Designer

5.5.3. Derby/Cross Country

Provincially certified course designer with derby course design designation or a Horse Council BC approved guest carded individual with Eventing course design specific qualifications and experience

- Responsibilities of the Derby/Cross Country Course Designer are:
- Build fences appropriately and safely to the level (height, width, technicality).
- Ensure safe footing, track flow, and proper distances.
- Mark and flag the course correctly.
- Walk the course with the PRO

Provincial Rules Official (PRO) or guest-carded individuals with Eventing specific qualifications and experience are recommended to be in attendance whenever possible. A PRO or guest-carded individual with Eventing specific qualifications and experience must be in attendance for Eventing Derbies hosting divisions over 90 cm.

5.6 Divisions

- a. Cross Pole: 45 cm (18")
- b. 60 cm (2')
- c. 69 cm (2'3")
- d. 77 cm (2'6")
- e. 85 cm (2'9")
- f. 90 cm (2'11")
- g. 100cm (3'3")

5.7 Phases

5.7.1. Dressage Phase

The arena size to be 20m x 40m

- Test callers are permitted
- Whips may be carried but must not exceed 120 cm for horses and 100 cm for ponies
- Tests: USDF or EC Tests may be used
- 45cm Division: EC ICE Intro level or USDF Introductory Tests
- 60cm Division: EC Intro ICE level Dressage or USDF Introductory Tests
- 69cm Division: EC EV85 Dressage, or USDF Training Level Tests
- 77cm Division: EC EV85 Dressage Test, or USDF Training Level Tests
- 85cm Division: EC EV85 Dressage Test, or USDF Training Level Tests
- 90cm Division: EV90 Dressage Test, or USDF Training Level Tests
- 100cm Division EV100 Dressage test, or USDF First Level Tests

5.7.1. Dressage Phase (cont.)

a. Scoring

- Each movement is scored out of 10 points. 0 being the lowest mark and 10 being the highest
- Errors are scored as -2 points. First error = 2, second error = 4, third error = elimination (three errors off course is grounds for elimination)
- The points are totaled and any errors subtracted before dividing by the total possible score to achieve a percentage.
- The percentage is then subtracted from 100 to achieve a penalty score. This penalty score is carried by the horse and rider through the remainder of the competition.

b. Elimination

- Evidence of blood on the horse
- Use of illegal equipment
- Continuous irregular pace or lameness. Judge's decision on lameness is final with no appeal.
- Dangerous/unruly behavior of horse
- Resistance of more than 20 seconds in a test
- All four feet of the horse leave the arena during test
- Fall of horse or rider during the test
- Dismounting during a test
- Taking more than 45 seconds to enter the arena at A after the start signal results in -2 points and more than 90 seconds results in elimination.
- three errors of course

5.7.2. Show Jumping Phase

- Jumping may take place on a level grass arena but the area must be enclosed with a perimeter fence and an in/out gate. If Jumping phase is held on grass it must be noted in the prizelist

	45	60	69	77	85	90	100
Maximum Height (cm)	45	60	69	77	85	90	100
Distance (m)	250 - 300	275 - 325	275 - 325	275 - 325	350 - 450	350 - 450	350 - 450
Speed (mpm)	225	225	225	300	300	325	350
Number of Jumps	7 - 9	8 - 10	8 - 10	8 - 10	9 - 12	9 - 12	9-12
Maximum Width (m)	Cross Poles only	No Oxers	No Oxers	80	1.0	1.10	1:20

5.7.2. Show Jumping Phase (cont.)

Specs may be modified to suit arena or weather conditions; any changes must be clearly communicated to all competitors and must be made before the first rider is on course.

- Courses should be built to encourage clear rounds and built with minimal or no fill.
- Generous track measurements should be taken.
- All Fences should be straight forward. No false groundlines may be used.
- Liverpools are not permitted in any division

45cm /Cross Pole Division:

- No fill. Course to consist of cross poles only. Simple track with one or two changes of direction.

60cm Division:

- Simple track, no oxers, no combinations, two changes of direction. Minimal fill or decoration

69cm Division:

- No combinations

77cm Division:

- No combinations

85cm Divisions and up:

- Related distances may be used; distances of less than five strides should be used.
- Minimum combinations of two strides may be used (10 meters)

5.7.3. Show Jumping Phase

a. Penalties

First Disobedience	4 Faults
Knock Down (considered as such when the height of the jump has been altered/lowered by horse or rider)	4 Faults
Refusal	4 Faults
Second Refusal	8 Faults
Third Refusal	Elimination
Exceeding Time Allowed	0.4 Fault for every second or fraction of a second over
Exceeding time limit	Elimination
Fall of horse or rider or both	Elimination

5.7.3. Show Jumping Phase (cont.)

b. Penalties

- If a competitor jumps an obstacle correctly which has been improperly rebuilt, they will not incur a penalty, but if they knock down this obstacle, they will incur a knockdown penalty.
- A resistance or stop is considered a disobedience and is penalized as such. A resistance is when a horse refuses to go forward, stops, steps back or makes one or more ½ turns. If the rider stops the horse for any reason, it can also count as a resistance. A competitor stopping their horse may only be allowed if the course is rebuilt improperly. If it is determined by the judge and Provincial Rules Official that the course has been rebuilt properly, the competitor will incur a refusal penalty.
- If 'resisting' or stopping for 45 consecutive seconds, the horse/rider will be eliminated.

c. Timing

- The Competitor must wait for an audible signal (whistle, bell, buzzer) before crossing the start line.
- The Competitor will have 45 seconds after the signal to cross the start line.
- The same signal is used to stop the competitor on course in the case of having to reset a knocked down or dislodged fence, for an elimination, or off course.
- Using electric timers with two stop watches as back up timers is recommended.
- If hand timers are used, a minimum of three watches is recommended with the median time used as the official time. (The median time is the same time indicated by two of the three watches. If no two watches indicate the same time, the median time will be the time indicated by the watch which is neither the slowest or fastest time.)
- Time allowed must be used. Time allowed is based on the course length measurement at the prescribed speed (measurement of track should be generous) Time limit is calculated as twice the time allowed.
- Time is recorded in seconds and 1/100ths of a second.
- Time shall start when the horses' chest reaches the start line and until after the last jump is taken and the horses' chest reaches the finish line.
- If, as the result of a disobedience, a competitor displaces or knocks down any obstacle, the bell is rung and the clock is stopped until the obstacle has been rebuilt. When the obstacle has been rebuilt, the bell is rung to indicate that the course is ready and that the competitor can continue the round. The competitor is penalized for a refusal, and a time correction of 6 seconds is added to the time taken by the competitor to complete his round. The clock is restarted at the moment when the horse leaves the ground at the obstacle where the refusal occurred.
- If disobedience with a knock-down occurs at the second or subsequent part of a combination the clock is restarted when the horse leaves the ground at the first element of the combination. It is the exhibitor's
- responsibility to be ready to continue the course when the signal is given. If the bell has been rung and the competitor jumps other elements of the combination in his stride, it does not entail elimination, or any further penalty should he knock down this element of the combination.
- If a horse slides through an obstacle, the Judge must decide immediately if it is to count as a refusal or as an obstacle knocked down. If it is decided that it is a refusal the bell is rung at once and the competitor must be ready to attempt the obstacle again as soon as

5.7.3. Show Jumping Phase (cont.)

- It has been rebuilt. If the Judge decides that it is not a refusal, the bell is not rung and the competitor must continue on course and will be penalized as a knockdown.
- In the event of broken timing equipment, the rider may continue without penalty.

5.7.4. Eventing Derby Phase

The Derby course may include a mix of Show Jumping or Cross-Country type fences, or all cross-country fences. A minimum of 4 Cross Country fences must be used. All Fences must have true visible groundlines Courses are to be built to encourage clear rounds.

a. Course

- Cross Pole Division: Show jumps are to consist of cross poles with no fill only. Simple track with one or two changes of direction.
- 60cm Division: Minimal fill or decoration. Simple Track with 2-3 changes of direction Jumps and X Country type obstacles must be straightforward in design. No oxers on show jumps.
- 85cm Division: Course may include combinations of two strides (10 meters). Water and ditches are considered as jumping efforts
- 90cm Division: Course may include combination of two strides (10 meters). Water and ditches are considered as jumping efforts

b. Derby Course – Specifications

Specs may be modified to suit Derby arena or weather conditions. Any changes must be clearly communicated to all competitors and must be made before the first rider is on course.



5.7.3. Eventing Derby Phase (cont.)

Cross Pole							
Max Height (cm)	45	60	Fixed - 69 Brush - 78	Fixed – 77 Brush – 85	Fixed – 85 Brush - 94	Fixed - 90 Brush – 1.00	Fixed -1.00 Brush- 1.20
Distance (meters)	500 - 1200	600 - 1500	600 - 1500	650 - 1900	800 – 1900	800 - 1900	800-2000
Speed (mpm)	220	300	325	325	350	375	375
Number of Jumps	10 – 12	10 – 15	10 – 15	10 – 18	10 - 18	10 - 18	10 - 18
Max Spread	-	Top - 60 Bottom - 76	Top - 69 Bottom - 107	Top – 77 Bottom - 115	Top – 122 Bottom - 122	Top - 140 Bottom -150	
Max Drop	No Drop	No Drop	69	77	85	1.00	
Water (if available)	Splash only with a flagged bypass option	Splash only with a flagged bypass option	Splash only with a flagged bypass option	Splash only with a flagged bypass option	Flagged on exit only. No jump into or out of	Flagged on exit only. No jump into or out of	
Ditches (if available)	No Ditches	No Ditches	Not recommended	Shallow Ditch only with a well-defined take-Off must also have a straight forward wide bypass option	Shallow Well-defined Max 122 cm	Shallow Well-defined Max 140 cm	
Banks	No Banks	No Banks	No Banks	Not recommended	Bank up to 85cm	Bank up to 90cm	

c. Timing

See Show Jumping Phase Page 126

- If a rider’s progress is hampered to the point where it may hold up another rider, they must hold back and allow the horse to pass and proceed when it’s safe.
- Competitors that are held up by an official/jump judge will have their time stopped until such time they may proceed.

d. Scoring:

Penalties are totaled together from all phases, with the lowest total winning.

Penalties are incurred for disobediences at obstacles (20 penalties for a first refusal/run-out), going over the optimum time (0.4 points per second), and other infractions like missing a flag (15 penalties) or breaking a frangible device (11 penalties).

5.7.3. Eventing Derby Phase (cont.)

Derby/Cross-Country Scoring and Penalties Scoring Overview

- The final score is a sum of penalties from all phases: dressage, derby/cross-country, and show jumping.
- The rider with the lowest total score wins.
- Derby/Cross Country scores are calculated by adding the penalties incurred at obstacles and for time.

e. Penalties

Fault	Penalty
First refusal, run out or circle	20 penalties
Second refusal, run out or circle at the same obstacle	40 penalties
Third refusal, run out or circle at the same obstacle	Elimination
Third penalized Disobedience on the entire course	Elimination
Activating a frangible obstacle in the jumping effort where the dimension of the obstacle is changed, this includes any show jumps that might be included on course.	
Reattempting an activated frangible Obstacle not restored to its original condition	11 penalties
Missed Marker	Elimination
Fall of horse or rider	15 penalties
Willful Delay between the last fence and the finish line	Elimination
Exceeding Optimum Time	19 penalties
Exceeding Time Limit	0.4 penalty points per second
Speed faults	Elimination
Error of course not rectified	0.4 penalty points per second under Speed Fault Time
Omission of obstacle or compulsory passage	Elimination
Jumping an obstacle in the wrong direction	Elimination
Retaking an Obstacle already jumped unless necessary to complete negotiating the obstacle	Elimination
Willful obstruction of an overtaking Athlete, or failure to follow the instructions of the appointed personnel while being overtaken	Elimination
Causing danger to another Athlete while overtaking that Athlete	Elimination
Failure to stop when signaled	Elimination
	Elimination