

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2025	5/5/2025	

## Rule Change Intent

In 2024, multiple instances occurred where an Athlete wished to withdraw from the FEI division following their Dressage Test (for reasons unrelated to horse welfare) and move to the National Event. Currently, EV108 only addresses Horses that are Eliminated for reasons unrelated to horse welfare. The proposed rule change expands the rule to permit Horses that Withdraw from FEI Events, for reason unrelated to horse welfare, to compete in the National Event, at the discretion of the Ground Jury. Additionally, extraneous language is being removed as the Horse and Athlete may compete at the national level that they are qualified for.

## Proponent Details

Eventing

## Contact Information

Alison Lloyd

alloyd@usef.org

## Linked Rules

## Comments

## USEA

**Draft 1:** Recommends Disapproval 04/17/2025

**Draft 1:** USEA supports the intent of the rule change however did not support the language changes. The committee felt that striking out the language requirement for the national level being at the same height level or below opens up the difficulty and burden of event staff ensuring athlete and horse combinations are qualified for a higher division during the event - i.e. rider trying to move from CCI2 to Intermediate might not be qualified for Intermediate. The language added to the rule is not clear on when the switch needs to take place; would changes be allowed to occur once a dressage score has been received or would the decision need to be made directly following conclusion of the test/after leaving the ring?

## EV108 Participation

4. HORSES. Events are open to stallions, mares, or geldings. The age of the Horse must comply with the specifications of the Event. For Horse Trials and Classic Three-Day Events, Horses may only compete once and must be ridden by the same Athlete throughout all phases. At FEI Events running concurrently with a national Event, if a Horse is Eliminated in the Dressage phase *or Withdraws at any point through the end of the Dressage phase before the next relevant phase starts*, for reasons unrelated to horse welfare, the national Ground Jury, in consultation with the Technical Delegate and the Organizer, may at their discretion, permit the Horse to compete in the national Event *at the same height level or below at any level they are qualified for.*