GR1005.3 Tracking #055-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Proponent
Extraordinary	4/1/2026	Driving

Intent

The adopted rule to require foreign FEI officials to complete safe sport and background checks has reduced the number of quality foreign officials able or willing to officiate in the U.S. This has created a financial hardship for organizers as they cannot use the foreign officials in attendance for the FEI competition to officiate the national classes which then requires an additional official. Depending on the shift of the calendar weeks, the current language stops foreign officials from officiating at the same competition from the year before. For example, if they officiated at a competition on 11/1/2025 they cannot officiate at the same competition the follow year if it lands on 10/31/2026. The propsoed language will correct this by utilizing the USEF calendar year to solve this date problem. The proposed language also increases the allowed competitions from one to two to allow more opportunity for foreign officials to officiate during the year which assists the small pool of officials within the U.S. that can officiate FEI and national classes at the same competition for the non-Olympic disciplines.

Proposed Change

GR1005 Officiating Eligibility and Guest Cards

3. The following individuals shall comply with the background check and training requirements of USEF Safe Sport Policy:

a. All Federation Licensed Officials, including Guest Judges, Certified Eventing Cross Country Course Designers, and Certified Schooling Supervisors;

b. All individuals seeking FEI licensure through the Federation;

c. Current Federation FEI officials; and

d. All foreign FEI officials officiating in national classes in more than ***two*** ~~one~~ Federation licensed and/or endorsed competitions within ***the same USEF Competition Year*** ~~any 12-month period of time~~.

EN103.1 Tracking #052-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Proponent
Extraordinary	4/1/2026	Endurance

Intent

In response to a recent rule change to GR801.3 which prohibits athletes from accessing information gathered by biometric sensors and equipment while on the field of play, the Endurance Sport committee is requesting an exception to that rule. This allowance aligns with the same practice within the FEI environment.

Proposed Change

SUBCHAPTER EN-1 ATHLETE

EN103 Saddlery and Equipment

1. The Steward or Veterinary Panel may inspect a combination's tack/equipment on the Field of Play at any time. Any suspected violation of the above, shall be reported to the Federation in the Steward's Report.

2. Tack condition: Horse tack must be in safe condition and correctly fitted to avoid the risk of pain or injury to the horse. It is the rider's responsibility to ensure that their tack is safe and fits correctly. Officials may require any ill-fitting tack/equipment to be removed or altered. The use of any ill-fitting equipment that risks causing (or causes) pain or injury to the horse may be considered as horse abuse (see also GR838).

a. The tack shall be appropriate to ensure the horse is under control at all times.

b. Any type of tack that unduly restricts the free movement of the horse's head or may cause pain is prohibited, i.e., draw reins, etc.

c. Blinkers are permitted but any method of restricting the forward vision of a horse is prohibited.

d. Specific safety equipment, such as reflective items, may be required as indicated in the prize list

e. The use of mobile phones and GPS devices are permitted.

f. From time to time, the Federation may issue further detailed rules regarding permitted or prohibited tack.

g. Biometric Sensors and Equipment. The use of equine and human biometric sensors that are noninvasive and minimal in design is permitted in competition and the information obtained from biometric sensors may be accessed by the competitor while on the field of play.

EV105.1 Tracking #054-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Proponent
Extraordinary	4/1/2026	Eventing

Intent

Effective April 1, 2025, the approval of the rule change proposal to GR1037 Warning Card System (Tracking #067-24) introduced a second warning option, the Recorded Warning, in addition to a Yellow Warning Card. Previously, a Yellow Warning Card was the sole option for a written warning. Therefore, the Eventing Chapter currently only references "Yellow Warning Card". Due to the new changes to the Warning Card System, the references in the Eventing Chapter are affected as certain instances are automatically considered, "misconduct [that] is not a minor offense but not severe enough to warrant formal disciplinary action through the Federation Regulation Department" as defined in GR1037. However, this was not the original intent of EV105, Subchapter EV-9 1.e., and Subchapter EV-9.8. The options provided in the rules gives discretion to the Ground Jury to apply the appropriate penalty based on the severity of the violation or action. The Recorded Warning option is being added to provide flexibility for the Ground Jury to address less egregious behavior.

A Record Warning is being added to EV105 to cover "minor offenses", which could include but is not limited to: accidental use of a cellular phone or accidental improper saddlery, such as using a whip of the incorrect length.

A Record Warning is being added to the Subchapter EV-9 1.e., to cover “minor offenses” of headgear violations, which could include but is not limited to: forgetting to refasten their headgear prior to the lap of honor or when someone is wearing a ball cap and forgets to switch to a helmet before mounting.

A Record Warning is being added to the Subchapter EV-9.8 as most dress violations are considered “minor offenses”, such as not wearing a jacket when required or wearing dress that is the incorrect color. The option for a Yellow Warning Card is being kept for cases where the behavior or violation is continued despite a previous warning.

Proposed Change

EV105 Disqualification Summary Table

The Ground Jury may disqualify an Athlete in the following cases when, in its discretion, the conduct is determined to be unsportsmanlike or abusive. Alternatively, the Ground Jury may apply a penalty of Elimination***, Recorded Warning,*** or a Yellow Warning Card, in its discretion.

Conduct	Rule Reference
Allowing someone other than the Athlete to school their Horse	EV111.1
Riding in the Dressage or Show Jumping arena or close to the Cross-Country Obstacles prior to the Event	EV111.3
Jumping practice fences: • that are not marked • in the wrong direction • while they are being held • that have been raised above the height or spread permitted • at other time than those permitted by the Organizer	EV111.5
Unethical Treatment of the Horse and Rapping	EV112
Willful Obstruction of an overtaking Athlete, failure to follow the instructions of the appointed personnel, or causing danger to another Athlete	EV121.6.c
Inspecting Cross-Country Obstacles before they are open	EV136.1a
Inspecting Show Jumping Obstacles when the arena is closed	EV136.2
Exercising with improper saddlery	Subchapter EV-10.1
Use of a radio or cellular phone while competing	EV139

SUBCHAPTER EV-9 DRESS

1. PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR.

a. At Federation licensed and endorsed Events, Athletes must wear headgear as follows, except as may otherwise be mandated by local law (see also GR801):

b. Upon arrival, anyone c must wear properly fitting protective headgear. The harness must be secured and properly fitted. See GR801.

c. It is the responsibility of the Athlete, or the parent or guardian or trainer of the Junior Athlete to ensure that the headgear worn complies with appropriate safety standards for protective headgear intended for equestrian use, is properly fitted, and in good condition. The Federation, Organizer, and Licensed Officials are not required to verify compliance.

d. The Federation, Organizer, and Licensed Officials make no representation or warranty, express or implied, about any protective headgear. Athletes are cautioned that death or serious injury may result despite wearing such headgear as all equestrian sports involve inherent dangerous risk. No helmet can protect against all foreseeable injuries.

e. Violation of this rule at any time, at the discretion of the Ground Jury, must be penalized by a ***Recorded Warning,*** Yellow Warning Card or Elimination.

[…]

8. DRESS COMPLIANCE. Appointed personnel should inspect whips and spurs before any phase. The appointed personnel may refuse permission for an Athlete to start the phase whose whip or spurs are not permitted. The appointed personnel must immediately report the suspected violation to the Ground Jury, or Technical Delegate if the Ground Jury is unavailable, for confirmation. An Athlete who competes with an illegal whip or spurs must be Eliminated. An Athlete who competes with prohibited dress in the CrossCountry and Show Jumping phases may be Eliminated or issued a ***Recorded Warning or*** Yellow Warning Card, at the discretion of the Ground Jury. See EV120 for Dressage.

EV113.2 Tracking #053-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Proponent
Extraordinary	4/1/2026	Eventing

Intent

Effective April 1, 2025, the approval of the rule change proposal to GR1037 Warning Card System (Tracking #067-24) introduced a second warning option, the Recorded Warning, in addition to a Yellow Warning Card. Previously, a Yellow Warning Card was the sole option for a written warning. Therefore, the Eventing Chapter currently only references “Yellow Warning Card”. Due to the new changes to the Warning Card System, the references in the Eventing Chapter are affected as certain instances are automatically considered, “misconduct [that] is not a minor offense but not severe enough to warrant formal disciplinary action through the Federation Regulation Department” as defined in GR1037. However, this was not the intent of EV113. Dangerous riding is considered a “minor offense”. Additionally, at FEI Events Dangerous Riding incurs an Eventing Recorded Warning, which is the equivalent to a USEF Recorded Warning. The proposed ensures Dangerous Riding warnings are consistent across all levels of eventing.

Proposed Change

EV113 Dangerous Riding

2. Dangerous Riding will be penalized accordingly, at the discretion of the Ground Jury. Athletes who engage in Dangerous Riding must receive 25 penalties, be Eliminated, and/or issued a ~~**Yellow Warning Card**~~ ***Recorded Warning***. The overall score for the Horse/Athlete combination must not count as a qualifying MER.