FAQ Judging Narrow Fences 2019

Extract of the rules: Rule 549.2 Run out - missing a flag

a) Run-Out: A Horse is considered to have run out (20 penalties) if, having been presented at an element or obstacle on the course, it avoids it in such a way that the body of the Horse (head, neck, shoulders and pelvis – legs are not included) fail to pass between the extremities of the element or obstacle as originally flagged. Continuing on course without representing will incur elimination.

**EXPLANATION:** If the body of the horse fails to jump over the full height of the fence as originally flagged then it is a run out (20 penalties). If they don’t represent then they are eliminated. Legs are excluded.

The picture below clearly shows the body of the horse not passing the extremities of the obstacle as originally flagged. 20 penalties for a refusal or elimination if they ride on.

b) Missing a flag: A Horse is considered to have missed a flag (15 penalties) if the Horse jumps the dimension of the obstacle and the majority of the Horse’s body (as defined above) passes through the flags. This means that some part of the body is not inside the flags (e.g. one shoulder, or one shoulder and part of one hip).
**EXPLANATION:** Both the back and front of the horse (not legs) jump the full height of the obstacle but not fully inside the jump as originally flagged then they get 15 penalties for missing a flag. If half the horses body (more than 50%) was outside the originally flagged jump this would be a run out (if the rider represented) or elimination (if the rider rode on)

The pictures below shows majority inside. It looks like the leg hit the flag so up to a ground jury with td decision. **15** for missing a flag or more likely clear giving benefit of the doubt to the athlete.
c) The Horse will have successfully negotiated the fence, if the body of the Horse (as defined above) has passed the fence as originally flagged (i.e. the body but not all the legs are inside the flag is considered clear).

EXPLANATION: If the back and front of the horse is inside the original position of the flags but one or more legs of the horse or rider knocks the flag this is clear (no penalties) Clear jumping everything inside the flags!
CORRECT JUDGING & CAMERA POSITION

Correct judging & camera position - Clear view of both flags in their original position

Incorrect judging & camera position – no clear view of both flags or of the flag bending from its original position

Incorrect judging & camera position – Judging & camera from behind, incorrect position as you cannot see the full horse going thru the flags in the original position
POSITIONING FENCE JUDGES:
The TD knows the correct position for jump judges BEFORE the competition starts and then ensure they are in the correct position. Obviously with the delegated help of other experienced people if necessary.

POSITION OF JUDGE AT CORNERS:
If there are two flags on one side, the ideal position (of course far enough away from the fence so not to disturb the horse) is from where you see both flags as one.

VIDEOING EVERY HORSE:
Every smartphone or tablet now has video function and most of our judges will have them with them. The TD should encourage and at bigger events including all FEI events insist that the jump judge or their assistant records every horse jumping a skinny fence from the correct angle described above. It is a split second decision as to whether a horse jumped a skinny correctly. Having good evidence will assist the jump judge, TD, and GJ greatly to decide if there is a penalty or not, as they can look at it frame by frame.

If the phone has capacity all short videos should be kept until the end of the competition in case there are any queries/protests. If there is not enough memory on the phone, then just keep the videos where there was any doubt and ask the TD to come and view them.
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<th>Frequently asked question</th>
<th>FEI Eventing Committee’s answer</th>
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<td><strong>Q:</strong> Could a combination be penalized with 15pts several times on the course?</td>
<td><strong>A:</strong> Yes, that is correct as long as the horse clearly attempted to jump the fence</td>
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<td><strong>Q:</strong> If a combination jumps fence between the flags and the athlete thinks out of flags and repeats fence is it an elimination for jumping a fence twice?</td>
<td><strong>A:</strong> This combination would not be eliminated or penalised with 15 penalties but no time penalties would be removed.</td>
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<td><strong>Q:</strong> Does the athlete still have the possibility to ask the fence judge if the horse jumped the fence between the flags?</td>
<td><strong>A:</strong> In relation to the introduction of this new rule, the possibility for the athlete to ask the fence judge has been removed as of 2018.</td>
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<td><strong>Q:</strong> How will it be judged if the horse is scored clear the first time, is represented and runs out on representation?</td>
<td><strong>A:</strong> The combination would get time penalties only. No penalties for second disobedience at a fence already judged as jumped clear.</td>
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<td><strong>Q:</strong> If a combination jumps fence between the flags and the athlete thinks out of flags, repeats fence and break a frangible device at 2nd attempt, will the combination be penalised with 11 penalty points?</td>
<td><strong>A:</strong> This combination would neither be penalised with 15 penalties nor 11 penalties but no time penalties would be removed.</td>
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Rule 549.2 – Run out – Missing a flag - Riders Perspective

Did I present my horse to the fence?

- NO: No Penalty
- YES: Did my horse jump the dimensions of the fence?
  - NO: 20 Penalties Represent or incur Elimination.
  - YES: Did my horse’s entire body pass between the flags?
    - YES: Clear, No Penalty
    - NO: Did the majority of my horse’s body pass between the flags?
      - YES: 15 Penalties, Continue on course
      - NO: 20 Penalties Represent or incur Elimination.
DEFINITIONS:

Dimensions: The height and width of the fixed part of the fence.

Entire Body: Head, neck, shoulders and pelvis – legs are NOT included.

Between the Flags: Between the extremities of the fence as originally flagged.

Majority of Horse: At least 2 shoulders, or head, neck and 1 shoulder and 1 hip, or head, neck, 2 hips.
There has been no clear definition of what the majority if the horse means by the FEI. We have made this interpretation based on fairness and spirit of the sport.

Decisions will be made in the spirit of the sport.