Rule	Tracking	Draft	Proposal Type	Effective Date	Proponent	Status
DC 945.2	085-25	1	FEI Rule Change	2/1/2026	Driving	Approved (1/18/2026)

DC945.2 Tracking #085-25 Draft #1 Approved

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
FEI Rule Change	2/1/2026	11/23/2025	Approved 1/18/2026

Rule Change Intent

Align with FEI Rules.

Proponent Details

Driving

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Linked Rules

Comments

Council - Intl Discipline

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 01/06/2026

Driving

Draft 1: Recommends Approval 12/02/2025

Member Comments

DC945 Obstacles in Section B

1. Number of Obstacles
   1.1 Refer to the chart in DC 944.
2. Sketches of Obstacles
   Accurate sketches of each obstacle, showing the location of the compulsory gates, dislodgeable/detachable elements and entry/exit flags must be made available to athletes, team and event officials before the first inspection of the course. ~~In order to avoid Athletes driving a dangerous and unsafe route through an Obstacle, the Course Designer may draw a double line of any color on the course map and on the ground to indicate a track which cannot be crossed at any time by an athlete. If the athlete crosses the area of the course marked by the double line, they will incur 20 penalty points. A Course Designer cannot draw more than 8 double lines on the course map in total. The double lines to be used in the course must be drawn on the ground at least 48 hours before the first start of the Marathon competition.~~

DC949 Obstacle Penalties

1. Pace in Obstacles
   Athletes in the Preliminary division and above may use any pace in the obstacles. The beginner and training divisions must only walk or trot in the obstacles (DC948.4 applies for incorrect pace).
2. Error of Course in an Obstacle
   2.1 Athletes entering any part of an obstacle without first passing through the entry flags or failing to pass through the exit flags on leaving an obstacle without correcting the error will be eliminated.
   2.2 The compulsory gates in an obstacle are “free” after an athlete has passed through them in the correct direction and in the correct sequence. Athletes may, therefore, go through them again in any direction at any time (for example, athletes must go through A in the correct direction before going through B. A is now “free” and they may go through it again in any direction as often as they like, and so on).
   2.3 Athletes, who pass through a compulsory gate in the wrong sequence or direction before it becomes “free” and without correcting the error before passing through the Exit Flags, will be eliminated.
   2.4 In order to correct such an error of course, the athlete must return to and drive through the compulsory gate they missed before continuing through the next compulsory gate in the correct sequence (for example, an athlete drives through compulsory gates A and B and then goes through D (missing gate C). In order to correct this error of course, the athlete must go back and drive through gate C before going on to gate D, etc. All gates are neutralized until they reach this gate. Each error corrected shall incur 20 penalties.
   2.5 Passing through the exit gate of an obstacle without driving all compulsory gates in the correct sequence will be penalized by elimination.
   2.6 An athlete is not considered to have passed through a compulsory gate in an obstacle until the whole turnout has passed between the flags denoting the compulsory gate.
   ~~2.7 An Athlete is not considered as having crossed a double line as per DC 945.2 until the whole turnout has crossed the double line.~~

DC953 Summary of Penalties in Marathon

Description	Ref. Rule	Penalties
Athlete or groom wearing shorts.	913.2.1	10 penalties per person
No Fastened protective headgear or no body protector on Marathon	913.2.3 913.2.4	Elimination or Yellow Warning Card
Finishing Section B with fewer horses than required	916.3	Disqualification
Not presenting an Entered horse at the In-Harness horse inspection	920.3.4	Elimination
No breeching with a carriage with no brakes	922.1.1	Elimination
Contravening the rules on advertising	926.3	Yellow Warning Card
Substitution of groom	928.2.7	Elimination
Groom handling reins, using whip and brakes when carriage not stationary	928.2.5	20 penalties
Person tied to the carriage	928.2.6	Elimination
Physical outside assistance	930.2.2	Elimination
Groom leading a horse through an obstacle (also see DC959.6.3)	930.3d	20 penalties
Incorrect pace	948.4	1 penalty for every 5 seconds
Dislodging a dislodgeable element	945.5.5	2 penalties per occurrence
Preventing a dislodgeable element from being dislodged	945.5.7	10 penalties
Motorized vehicles or bicycles in obstacles First Incident Second Incident	946.3.5	 Warning Yellow Warning Card
Carriages under weight at end of B or under width at start of B	922 & 950.1.2	Elimination
Total time over time allowed in all sections	947.1	0.25 penalties/sec
Total time under minimum time in Sections A and B	947.2	0.25 penalties/sec

Total time in obstacles	947.2	0.25 penalties/sec
Athlete fails to stop when recalled	947.4.3	Elimination
Not ready to start Section A	947.4.2	0.25 penalties/sec
Contravening the rule on the use of the whip	948.1	20 penalties
Each deviation from course after last obstacle	948.3	10 penalties
Required persons not on carriage passing through a compulsory turn flag, or the start and finish of each Section, each occasion	948.5.2	5 penalties (grooms) 10 penalties (athlete)
Grooms dismounting while moving in Section B	948.5.1	5 penalties
Athlete dismounting while moving in Section B	948.5.1	20 penalties
Finishing Section B with missing or disconnected pole strap, trace, or reins for each occurrence	948.7	10 penalties
Failing to pass through compulsory turn flags and obstacles in correct sequence and direction	949.2	Elimination For Short Format Modified Marathons: 5 penalties per error
Finishing Section B with missing wheel	948.7	Elimination
Finishing Section B with broken or disconnected pole or shaft	948.7.4	Elimination
Failing to pass through entry flags of an obstacle	949.2.1	Elimination
Groom(s) not on the carriage when crossing start of an obstacle	949.3.7	5 penalties
Failing to pass through exit flags of an obstacle	949.7.3	Elimination
For correcting each error of course in an obstacle	949.2.1	20 penalties
Passing between exit flags before completing an obstacle	949.2.4	Elimination
Groom(s) dismounting in an obstacle, each	949.3.1	5 penalties

occasion		
Athlete dismounting in an obstacle	949.3.3	20 penalties
Two feet on an element of obstacle	949.3.5	5 penalties
Groom climbing over horse back or down the pole in an obstacle	949.3.4	20 penalties
Disconnecting and leading through an obstacle	949.4	Elimination
Failing to stop for leg over pole, lead bar, or shaft	949.6.2	Elimination
Failing to stop for leg over trace	949.6.2	30 penalties
Carriage overturn	948.7.4	Elimination
Exceeding the time limit in obstacles (5 min.)	949.7.3	Elimination
Horses unfit to continue in rest area	920.3.3 937.1	Elimination
Exceeding the time limit in all sections	947.2.5	Elimination
Groom leading horse through the obstacle by the bridle ends of the reins (Also see DC930.3.d)	949.3.6	25 penalties
Stopping on course for reasons other than repairs	948.6	1 penalty per commenced 10 seconds
~~Passing the marked double line in an obstacle~~	~~945.2~~	~~20 penalties~~