

## EFRA General Rules

**Further and more in-depth information can be found in the BRC Handbook.**

*A link can be found on our website [www.ettrickforest.co.uk](http://www.ettrickforest.co.uk)*

1. Competition shall be run generally under the rules for British Riding Club competitions as laid down in the Rule Book for the current year. The competitions are unofficial in that the result does not affect the grading of the horse unless otherwise stated.
2. Orders: Riders and owners of competing horses and their servants must, under penalty of elimination obey any order or direction given to them by any responsible official and they must, in particular, be careful not to do anything liable to upset or hinder the undisturbed progress of the competition.
3. Disclaimer of Liability: Save for death or personal injury caused by negligence of the organisers or anyone for whom they are in law responsible, neither the organisers of any event to which these rules apply, nor the BHS nor any agent, employee or representative of these bodies accepts any liability for any accident loss damage injury or illness to horses, owners, riders, spectators, land or any other person or property whatsoever, whether caused by their negligence, breach of contract or in any other way whatsoever.
4. Reservation of Right: The Organisers reserve the right to: (a) cancel any class or event (b) divide any class (c) alter a time (d) refuse any entry, with or without stating the reason.
5. **Starting Times: Times will be published, as indicated on schedule, at least 24 hours before any competition.**
6. Riding in Arenas etc. Competitors may not, under penalty of elimination, ride on or in any part of the dressage or show jumping arenas or on any part of the cross-country course except when actually competing.
7. Saddlery & Equipment; Riding-in with Market Harborough running reins, bearing reins, side reins or any other artificial aid is forbidden. Lungeing in side-reins is permitted. Lungeing of ponies/horses must not take place in such a way or at such times as to interfere with other competitors and/or spectators. Spurs must be blunt and if curved must be downwards.
8. Cruelty: Any act or series of actions which in the opinion of the Chief Steward, can be clearly and without doubt be defined as cruelty, shall be penalised by elimination. Such acts will include excessive use of the whip, spurs and bit.
9. Unfitness of Horses: If at any time during competition a horse is lame, sick or exhausted it must be eliminated on the authority of the organiser or steward.
10. Doping: It is forbidden, under penalty of elimination, to administer any stimulant or sedative to a horse, or cause one to be administered in any way with the object of influencing its performance before or during a competition.
11. Destruction of Horses: If a horse is so severely injured that on humanitarian grounds it ought to be destroyed, the following procedure will apply: if the owner or his authorised agent is present, his agreement will first be obtained by the official Veterinary Surgeon: if the owner or his agent are not available the Chief Steward, acting on the advice of the Veterinary Surgeon may order the destruction of the horse.
12. Objections: Complaints must be accompanied by a deposit of £10 and must be made within 30 mins after the happening which gave rise to the objection. Resolution will be by the Judge and/or the organising committee and their decision will be final.
13. Making an entry for any class constitutes implicit acceptance of these rules.
14. Riding Club Member refers to members of a Club affiliated to BRC and of a minimum age of 18 years. To compete in a member only competition subscriptions must be paid 10 days before close of entries.
15. Disciplinary rules: laid down in the Riding Clubs Handbook shall be upheld

16. **In the event of bad weather resulting in the running of a competition being in doubt, the decision of the organisers to cancel or postponed will be posted on EFRA Facebook page and our website, [www.ettrickforest.co.uk](http://www.ettrickforest.co.uk)**
17. Horses tied to the outside of lorries/trailers **MUST NOT** be left unattended
18. If Dogs are allowed at any venue, they must be always kept on a leash.
19. **Hat/Body Protector Rules** Under BRC rules applying to any event, all riders when mounted, whether competing or not, must wear a hard hat complying with one of the following specifications and with the strap properly adjusted and fastened. Only the following specifications are acceptable at any BRC competition.
  - i) PAS015 (2011) **and must have** official BSI Kite mark or Inspec IC mark
  - ii) VG1 01.040 (2014-12) **and must have** official BSI Kite mark or Inspec IC mark
  - iii) ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards) **and must have** official SEI Mark
  - iv) SNELL E2016 **and must have** official SNELL label and number
  - v) AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards) **and must have** official SAI global mark

It is the rider's responsibility to ensure they are wearing hats to the correct standard. Any rider found to be using a hat to a lower specification will be disqualified.

Riders should be aware that riding in a hat which is not up to the standard specified above may invalidate any insurance.

**Body protectors:** BETA Level 3 displaying either a Purple 2009 Label OR Blue 2018 Label

The **ONLY** exception to the requirement for a BETA Level 3 2009/2018 label is that Exo Body Cages will continue to be accepted, provided they have a BETA Level 3 2000 purple label & the competitor must inform the event secretary. If a rider chooses to wear an airbag style body protector for cross-country it must be worn over a permitted BETA Level 3 body protector and if activated, must be deflated or removed before continuing. Hybrid Air-jackets and air jackets incorporated into a blouson style jacket are permitted. It is recommended that body protectors are replaced once they are more than 5 years old.

**Note: As from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 BRC will no longer accept the 2009 Purple Labels**

21. HC Entries may be accepted but horses can only then compete in a higher class on that day.
22. **There must be at least 2 competitors in a class for prizes and points to be awarded**
23. There will be opening and closing dates for most training days, please send entries within these dates.
24. Riders should pass left hand to left hand when in warm up arena with a maximum of six horses at a time when possible
25. Full refund for withdrawals before the closing date, but no refunds will be available after the closing date