

FEI JUMPING RULES, 27th edition, effective 1 January 2022

- 2.8. all cases of abuse and/or ill treatment of Horses reported by a member of the Ground Jury or by a Steward, or by any other person to an Official (see GRs Art. 142.2) including, but not limited to, cases arising under VRs Art. 1050 (Final Examination for Limb Sensitivity);
3. Disqualification is mandatory in the following cases:
 - 3.1. marks indicating excessive use of spurs or of the whip anywhere on the Horse; additional sanctions may also apply (see JRs Art. 243);
 - 3.2. jumping unauthorised obstacles in any place on the showground;
 - 3.3. leaving the showground with the horse for any purpose during the period of the Event.

ARTICLE 243 ABUSE OF HORSES (SEE ALSO GRs ART. 142)

1. All forms of cruel, inhumane or abusive treatment of Horses, which include, but are not limited to various forms of rapping, are strictly forbidden (see JRs Art. 243.2).

Any act or series of actions that in the opinion of the Ground Jury can be deemed abuse of a Horse shall be penalised according to the GRs with one or more of the following penalties:

- (i) Yellow Warning Card (see GRs Art. 164.3);
- (ii) Fine;
- (iii) Elimination;
- (iv) Disqualification.

2. The following are considered to be abuse of a Horse (see also GRs Art. 142):

2.1. Rapping Horses

The term "rapping" is construed to include all of the artificial techniques intended to induce the Horse to jump higher or more carefully in Competitions. It is not practical to list every possible means of rapping, but in general it consists of the Athlete and/or dismounted assistants, for whose behaviour the Athlete is responsible, either hitting the Horse's legs manually with something (no matter with what or by whom) or deliberately causing the Horse to hit something itself, whether by building obstacles too large and/or too wide, setting false ground lines, placing trotting poles or the elements of a combination at a false distance, intentionally pulling or pushing the Horse into an obstacle or otherwise making it difficult or impossible for the Horse to negotiate the practice obstacle without hitting it.

In the case of rapping or any other abusive schooling practice within the period of jurisdiction of the Ground Jury, the Athlete and the Horse concerned will be disqualified from all Competitions for at least 24 hours. In addition, the Ground Jury may take any further action it deems appropriate under the circumstances, including, but not limited to, disqualifying the Athlete and/or Horse from the entire Event.

2.2. Excessive use of the whip

- The whip may not be used to vent an Athlete's temper. Such use is always excessive;
 - The use of a whip on a Horse's head is always excessive use;
 - A Horse should never be hit more than three times in a row. If a Horse's skin is broken, it is always considered excessive use of the whip;
 - The whip is not to be used after Elimination;
- An Athlete identified as misusing or excessively using the whip will be disqualified and may be fined at the discretion of the Ground Jury.

2.3. Other Forms of Abuse

Abuse of a Horse in any other form (such as, but not limited to, hypersensitising or desensitising the limbs, the use of banned schooling methods, excessive use of spurs and other cases as specified in the GRs, VRs or any other FEI rules and regulations) is also prohibited and must be penalised appropriately under these rules.

ARTICLE 244 BOOT AND BANDAGE CONTROL

1. Stewarding – Boot and Bandage Control (see also JRs Art. 257.2.3-257.2.5 and VRs Art. 1023, 1046, 1047)

It is obligatory to carry out boot and bandage control on all Horses taking part in the Grand Prix, Nations Cup, Puissance and Six Bar Competitions, and during the Competition with the highest prize money at each Event. It is also recommended that boot and bandage control be carried out during other Competitions. Refer to the VRs and to the Jumping Stewards Manual for the procedure for boot and bandage control.