

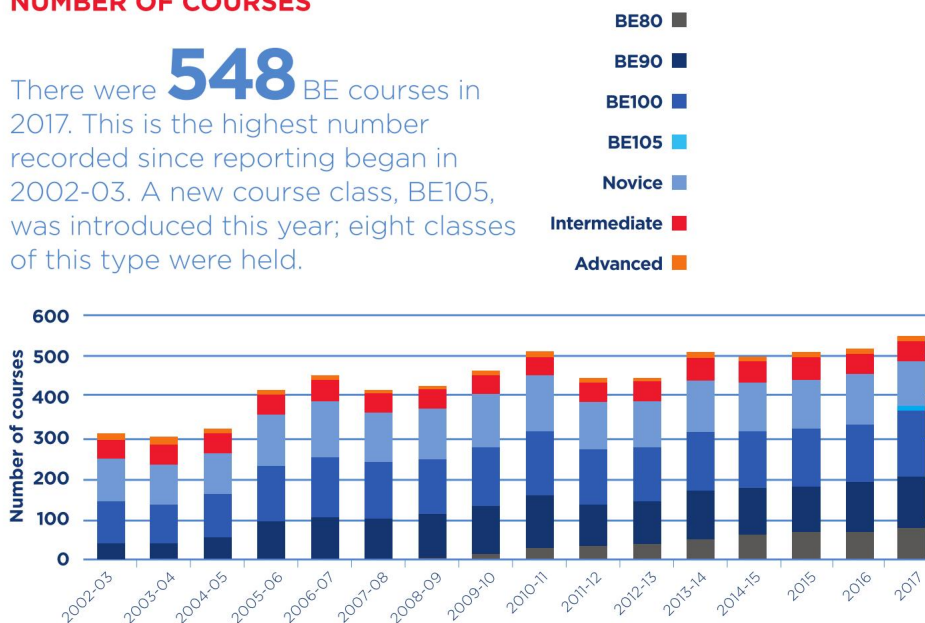
Safety report

A summary of the cross country courses and falls on them for 2017

The British Eventing falls project started in 2002 and aims to collect data that can be used to develop a greater knowledge of how falls occur in cross country events. Each year, data from falls are analysed by TRL to understand how improvements to the safety of the sport have changed the risk, particularly in those falls which result in fatal or serious injury. The figures in this report display a summary of the courses, competitors, fences and falls experienced during the 2017 season. The full report will be available on the BE website.

NUMBER OF COURSES

There were **548** BE courses in 2017. This is the highest number recorded since reporting began in 2002-03. A new course class, BE105, was introduced this year; eight classes of this type were held.



NUMBER OF COMPETITORS

There were more than 76,000 cross country starters during the 2017 season. = 20 competitors

COURSE	AVERAGE NUMBER OF COMPETITORS
BE80(T)	
BE90	
BE100	
BE105	
Novice	
Intermediate	
Advanced	
CIC (1* to 3*)	
CCI (1* to 4*)	

FENCES

There were over **16,000** cross country fences in 2017.

Round elements

were the most common fence type (25 per cent of all fences).

AIR JACKETS

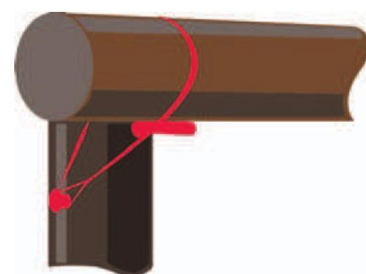
Overall, 55 per cent of riders who fell were wearing an air jacket. The number of falls per thousand jumps was lower in the 2017 season compared with the 2002-03 season.

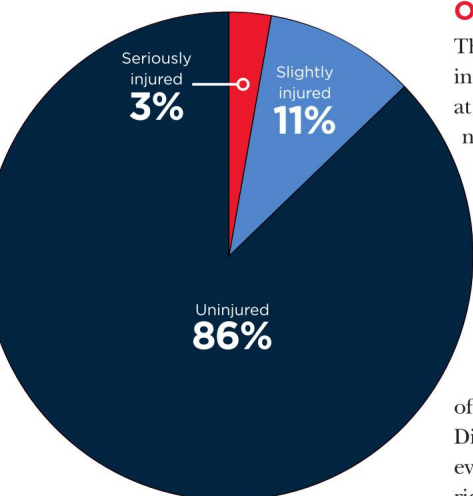
FRANGIBLE ELEMENTS

In 2002 frangible elements were introduced into fences to reduce the chance that a horse somersaults due to the way in which it impacts a cross country

fence. If the impact with the fence is large enough, the frangible element is designed to break, making the fence considerably safer. There were 873 fences with

frangible elements in 2017 – 101 falls occurred at these fences; of the falls where the frangible pin broke, no injuries were sustained.

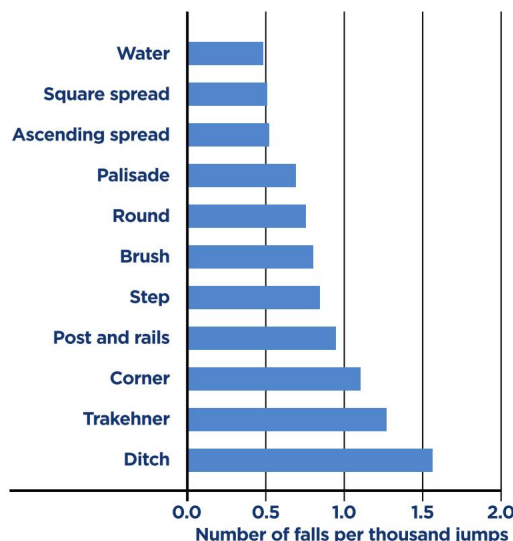




OVERVIEW OF FALLS

There were 1,486 falls on cross country courses in 2017. The majority of these (1,380) occurred at fences. British Eventing does not record the number of times each fence is jumped. However, if certain assumptions are made, then it is possible to estimate the number of times that each type of fence is jumped and compare this with the number of falls that occur at this fence type. In this way, it is possible to obtain some understanding of those fence types at which falls are most likely to occur.

The chart on the right shows the number of falls per thousand attempts at each fence type. Ditches had the highest number of falls – for every thousand attempts at this fence type, 1.6 riders fell. This was followed by trakehner fences (1.3 falls per thousand jumps). Fewer falls per thousand jumps occurred at water, square spread and ascending spread fences (around 0.5 per thousand jumps).



KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

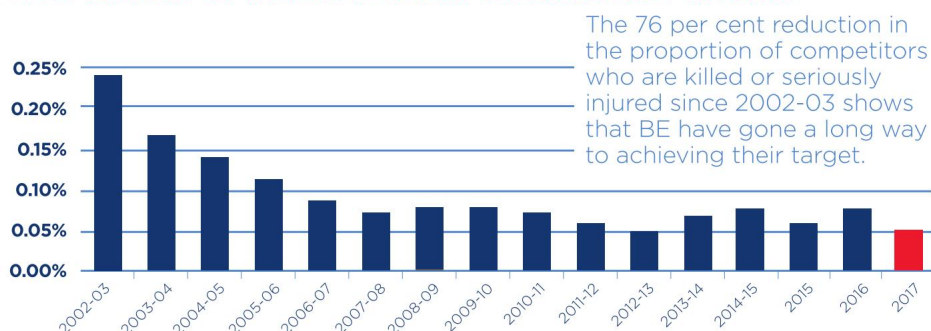
British Eventing has adopted a casualty reduction strategy, which aims to:

- Reduce the percentage of riders who are fatally/seriously injured.
- Reduce the percentage of horse falls relative to the number of competitors.

To assess if BE are meeting these aims, a number of Key Performance Indicators are used to monitor rider safety.

BE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE NUMBER OF FALLS AND STRIVE TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF THEIR CROSS COUNTRY EVENTS.

PROPORTION OF RIDERS FATALLY OR SERIOUSLY INJURED



PROPORTION OF RIDERS IN FALLS WHERE THE HORSE SOMERSAULTS

