

CHAPTER 1

AFFILIATED EVENTING; BE CODE OF CONDUCT

AFFILIATED EVENTING

- 1.1 **British Eventing** (BE) is the governing body for Affiliated Eventing in Great Britain. BE regulates and supervises all Events which are affiliated to it.
- 1.2 The BE Rules, which form the framework for the conduct of National Events, are contained in this Handbook. Whenever amendments are necessary, notice will be given to members by all reasonable and appropriate means.
- 1.3 BE operates under the auspices of the British Equestrian Federation (BEF) which is affiliated to the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI), the world governing body of equestrian sport. The FEI has made Rules for the conduct of all **International Events**. Annex 2 to this handbook contains some information regarding these Rules which are set out in full at www.fei.org
- 1.4 All Eventing competitions, National and International, consist of three separate phases, dressage, show jumping and cross country, which have to be carried out by the same Horse and rider.
- 1.5 The two types of **National Event** are:
 - 1.5.1 **One day Events;** in which the three phases will usually, though not inevitably, take place on the same day with dressage first and cross country last.
 - 1.5.2 **Three Day Events;** the three phases take place in the order dressage, cross country (with or without roads and tracks and steeplechase) and show jumping.
- 1.6 When BE affiliated Events run both National and International classes the BE Rules and the FEI Rules apply to the appropriate individual classes and are administered by the Officials appointed to each class. BE remains the supervisory body for the Event.

BE CODE OF CONDUCT

- 1.7** Members of British Eventing and those connected with them are required to abide by this Code of Conduct as regards both the welfare of Horses and their own conduct.
- 1.8** BE is at one with the BEF and the FEI in that at all times the welfare of the Horse is paramount in the sport of Eventing and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial interests. At all stages during the preparation, training and competing of competition Horses, welfare must take precedence over all other demands. This includes good Horse management, training methods, farriery, tack and transportation.
- 1.9** The sport of Eventing involves many people; as Competitors and their connections, as Organisers and the teams of Officials and as helpers. The sport relies heavily on the support and active involvement of many volunteers and many professionals in diverse fields. BE requires everyone involved in the sport to behave in a civilised and courteous way towards each other and to uphold the integrity and repute of the sport.
- 1.10** Members must familiarise themselves with requirements and obligations imposed by these BE rules which are binding on them. They should also bring these Rules to the attention of any non-members who may be participating in the sport with them, such as connections or event helpers, and do their best to ensure compliance as appropriate. Members are responsible for the actions of any nonmembers employed or otherwise assisting or acting on their behalf and any act or omission of such a person which would amount to a breach of the Rules by a Member shall constitute a breach by the Member on whose behalf it was committed.
- 1.11** It is not possible to anticipate every eventuality in these Rules. They are intended to form an interlocking code for the conduct of the sport; each Rule must be read by reference to the Rules as a whole and in the general context of this Code of Conduct.
- 1.12** Officials are required to take decisions in a fair and sporting manner and in accordance with the Code of Conduct and these Rules. Members are expected to respond and behave in the same way.
- 1.13** Failure to comply with the Rules, and the underlying Code of Conduct, may give rise to disciplinary action. The Rules relating to the disciplinary process are set out in Chapter 3.

INTERPRETATION

- 1.14 For the purposes of these Rules:
- 1.14.1 All references to Horses include ponies unless provided otherwise.
- 1.14.2 Words connoting gender are a reference to any gender.
- 1.14.3 Words denoting the singular may include the plural, and vice versa, as appropriate.
- 1.14.4 Unless the context determines otherwise, reference to any 'phase' of an event includes the warm-up for that phase.
- 1.14.5 All requirements and obligations set out herein constitute Rules whether or not they are expressly described as such.
- 1.14.6 **All permissions and authority afforded to the Chief Executive within these rules can, with approval of the Board, be exercised by an appropriate delegate.**