British Eventing

Rule Changes 2026

Chapter Rule	Rule Change (additions shown in red/bold text; deletions show ~~struck through~~)
1.10	**BE Code of Conduct – complete revision**
2.1.5	**Horses and Riders competing in FEI classes, in the United Kingdom, if ridden by a GBR competitor must;** • **be registered with BE, and have the following;** • **A Standard or Premier membership depending on the level of competition** • A Full or Half season ticket for the relevant year or for the period 1st July to the end of the relevant year (Rule 2.6) • **FEI registrations for the relevant year for both horse and rider** • **If competing at 4* or above in the United Kingdom the horse will need an in-date FEI recognition card**
2.7.2 / 2.7.3	**Delete – BE80u18 Championship and BE90u18 Championship from both tables**
2.8.1	**The Regional Youth Programme for riders aged 12 to 18 Years old** covers four levels of competition with on-event Youth Coach and/or Youth Official support at some competitions. • u18 Novice riders compete in Regional Open Novice u18 (ONu18) classes and a National Under 18 Championship, including teams held at CCI2*-**S**. • u18 BE100 riders compete in BE100Ou18 Regional classes and have a National u18 Championship, including teams held at BE105. • u18 BE90 riders compete in BE90 Ou18 Regional classes ~~and have a National u18 Championship, including teams.~~ • u18 BE80 riders compete in BE80Ou18 Regional classes ~~and have a National u18 Championship, including teams.~~
2.8.2	**Ponies.** Open for members in the years of their 12th - 16th birthday riding a pony, who compete at 105, Novice and CCIP2* S/L with a Pony National Championship held at CCIP2***S/**L level. All ponies taking part in International Pony competitions must not exceed the FEI pony regulated height. See rule 2.9.3.3
2.8.3	**Juniors.** Open for members in the year of their 14th - 18th birthday who compete at Novice and CCI2* classes or above with a Junior National Championship held at CCI2*-**S/**L level.
2.8.4	**Young Riders.** Open for members in the year of their 16th – 21st birthday, who compete at Intermediate and CCI3* or above. Young Riders may compete at any level without age restriction including the U25 ~~advanced~~ classes ~~with a U-25 National Championships at CCI4*-S and a~~ U21 National Championships at CCI3-L*. In addition, the Regional Youth Championships offers a Regional Championship class at CCI2-**S** ~~L~~*, and 105 L for U21s.
2.8.5	**New** **U25. Open for members in the year of their 18th – 25th birthday who compete at Advanced level and CCI4*-S and above with a National Championships at CCI4*-S.**
2.9.3.4	**Exemptions in Exceptional Circumstances** By a written Exemption in Exceptional Circumstances, ('Exemption') the appropriate Performance Manager or the Chair of the appropriate Youth Programme, may give

	permission for any Competitor to ride any Horse in any competition. It is the responsibility of the rider to ensure an exemption is in place prior to competing. Application Forms for exemptions should be submitted as far in advance as possible and before submitting an entry to the event, allowing at least 7 days before the ballot date. The Exemption must accompany the relevant entry. Applications not made within the time frame stated above may only be accepted at the discretion of the appropriate Programme Manager or Head of Youth. ~~Chair of the Youth Programme.~~
3.8.6	**Rider Referrals** If a Member **or Associate's** riding has given cause for concern (but has not resulted in a Disciplinary Sanction) and the BE Steward or BE Technical Adviser consider that the Member **or Associate** may benefit from additional advice and/or training, they may refer the Member **or Associate**, via the Event Incident Log, to the BE Office. A representative from the BE Sport Committee will discuss the matter with the BE Steward or BE Technical Adviser and the affected Member **or Associate**. After discussion with the Member **or Associate**, such representative will decide whether coaching sessions and/or assessments with a specifically appointed BE Accredited coach are necessary. **Any such additional coaching sessions and/or assessments will be paid for by the Member or Associate.** If at any time the Sport Committee representative has on-going concerns they may refer the matter to the CEO who may, inter alia, prevent the Member **or Associate** entering further BE Events until those concerns are resolved to the satisfaction of the Sport Committee representative.
4.1.3	**The Fees** **The Early Bird Entry Fee – The entry fee charged prior to Ballot.** **The Additional Post Ballot Fee – The additional fee added to the entry fee at any time after ballot date.**
4.1.5	**Where applicable the Ballot Date** will be a Tuesday, usually 18-21 days before the Event or 25-28 days if the Event balloted the previous year**, takes a large volume of entries or runs over multiple days.**
4.1.6	**The Post Ballot Surcharge Date - Any time after Ballot Date, when a £25 surcharge (inc VAT if applicable) may be charged, at the Organiser's discretion.**
5.2.1	**Bikes** • The use of Bikes, Electric and Push on Event Site is at the discretion of the Organiser and their policy should be stated in the schedule. • Organisers have the right to exclude the use of Bikes on site at their Event or allow them to be used in certain areas only. • All Bikes must be used in a safe manner and should not be ridden at more than 10mph anywhere on the Event Site. • Disciplinary Sanctions (3.8.1) may be taken if members or their connections are found to be riding or parking Bikes in an unsafe manner. This also includes following a horse cross country.

5.20	**Stallions**. Stallions must always be properly restrained. They must never be left tied to a lorry or trailer. They must be led from a bit, with a lead rope of a minimum length of 2.5m to include a chain of not less than 50 cm. attached to the bit. When lunged, the lunge line must be attached to the bit. **A British Eventing stallion disc must be displayed and clearly visible on** ~~They must display a stallion disc on~~ **each side of the bridle at all times while at the competition site**. The BE Steward may require removal of the stallion from the site if he considers the risk of an accident to be unacceptable.
6.1.4.5	**Other Errors.** The following are considered errors; error marks as indicated will be deducted per error, but they are not cumulative and thus will not normally result in Elimination. Repeated errors may lead to Elimination at the discretion of the BE Steward in consultation with the Judge. • Entering the Dressage arena with whip; 6 error marks per judge. The judge will stop the Test and continue it after the whip has been discarded. • Entering the arena with the Horse wearing boots or bandages; 6 error marks per judge. The judge will stop the test and continue it after removal of the boots or bandages. • Entering the arena before the sound of the bell; 2 error marks per judge. • Not entering the arena within forty five (45) seconds after the bell, but within ninety (90) seconds; 2 error marks per judge. • Not wearing gloves, or other minor breaches of dress rules; 2 error marks per judge. • Riding the wrong test. A Competitor who has learned the wrong test will, if the timetable allows, and at the discretion of the BE Steward, be permitted time to learn the correct test and to restart with 4 error marks per judge. • **Use of the Voice. The use of the rider's voice is prohibited and is to be penalised by the loss of two marks from the score that would have been awarded for each movement in which it occurred.**
6.2.6.3 **Show Jumping - Course & Obstacles** **Revised table and note 'A water tray will be used if available for Novice & Intermediate Novice'.**	
6.2.7	**Revise Show Jumping Penalties Table** **Continuing before the bell and subsequent Elimination – BE80, BE90 & BE100 level. The competitor will be allowed to complete the round before being Eliminated.**
6.2.9	A Competitor who has **retired or** been eliminated (as the result of a refusal or run-out) is permitted to make up to two attempts to jump any single obstacle in the proper direction.
6.3.4.1	The start box will be approximately 5m square. It will have an open front and must have entry from a gap on one or both sides of about 2m through which Competitors may enter. The gap(s) will be protected to prevent injury. The start box will be marked with a red and white flag at the front. **Where an electronic timing system is used, the timing heads shall be positioned within 10cm of the red and white flags.**
6.3.4.5	Time is counted from the moment - • the start signal is given**, or;** • if the timing beam is **broken by the horse,** or; whichever is the earlier, until the Horse's nose passes the finish **or the timing beam is broken.** Thus, an early start will not advantage the Competitor.

6.3.4.7	If a Competitor is stopped and held on the course by an Official, **or they pull up themselves on grounds of safety**, the time during which he is held will be deducted from the recorded time. (See also Rule 6.3.9.14)
6.3.9.14	**Stopping a Competitor**. If for any reason it becomes necessary for a Competitor to be stopped on the course, **or a competitor pulls up themselves on grounds of safety** cross country control will give instructions to the relevant fence judges. If possible Competitors will be stopped at Stopping Points, but this may not always be possible and they must be prepared to stop as and when instructed. • The Competitor will be stopped by Officials waving a red flag at shoulder height. The signal should be assisted by the clearly shouted command 'STOP'. • **A competitor may pull up themselves due to a loose horse, loose dog or something blocking the course. Control will manage the situation through the fence judges and will manage their restart when safe. The Steward/ TA with the Scorer will look at their cross-country time and adjust as necessary using the times taken at every fence.** • A Competitor, who has been stopped by an official on the course, will have his time noted as he passes the stopping point and again at the same point on being re-started; the difference 'the held time' being deducted from his recorded time. (See Rule 6.3.4.7.)
6.3.11.4 New	**Falls on the Flat –** **While on the Cross Country** • **A fall of rider or horse and rider that is not associated with a fence is a Fall on the Flat (FOF)** • **Any fall within the lettered elements of a combination is considered to be associated to that fence.**
7.18	Update Table with new u25 Championships **Union Flag Badges.** Only members of the teams listed below and nominated individuals are entitled to wear the Union Flag Badge on their jackets. 
7.19.2 Table	Amend Bridle wording to allow members to wear a bridle that does not have a throat lash for the dressage phases only.

7.19.2 The table below defines the saddlery that is permitted, not permitted or compulsory at each relevant stage of National Events without exception.

	Riding in exercise areas	Lungeing	Dressage Tests	Show Jumping	Cross Country
Bit guards (only smooth sides and those with small soft bristles no longer than 1cm long) & tongue guard	✓	✓	X	✓	✓
Nose net	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ear covers*1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ear plugs	X	✓	X	X	X
Fly fringe	✓	✓	X*3	X*3	X*3
Liquid Titanium or similar type hood	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Net Relief Rising Mask or similar Face Mask *6	✓	✓	✓	NOT PERMITTED	
Snaffle bridle/Miklem multi-bridle/ST-Zaum / Freeflex /Stuben Freedom /PS of Sweden High Jump /PS of Sweden Jump off /Collegiate Comfitec/ Jeffries Gentle Bridle/Grackle Bridles must be used with a permitted bit **and** without bit clips. ~~and with~~ A throat lash **must be used for the jumping phases.**	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

7.19.2 Table

Nosebands

Nosebands *9 A - chain will be allowed for both Show Jumping & Cross country on the lower strap of a Grackle. For Cross Country the chain part must be covered.	
B - with chain attached to the inner surface.	NOT PERMITTED

A



B



Notes – amendment to Point *9 – delete current wording and replace

~~*9 Nosebands - Only one (1) noseband at any one time, of permitted design and in unmodified manufactured condition, can be worn during any phase of the competition.~~

***9 Double or dual nosebands may be worn for the Show Jumping and Cross-Country phases. This also includes a Kineton noseband/bit lifter.**

7.19.7

This rule is not new but a clarification -

The following rules apply to **show jumping** and **cross country** in addition to Rule 7.19.2

<table>
<tr><td></td><td>

Competitors may also use any normal jumping bit, Pelham, American or continental gag, hackamore and any form of bitless bridle. Reins may be attached to leather ‘D’ rings.
When using two reins on a bit, the running martingale rings can only be used on the top rein.
<s>Competitors may not use a curb rein which passes through the rings of a running martingale.</s>
Only Pelhams/Kimblewicks and Weymouth may use a correctly fitted curb chain. Metal chains are not permitted on any other type of bit.
Competitors may not use a Market Harborough.
Stirrup leathers must hang outside the flap of the saddle.

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<tr><td>9.4.2</td><td>Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE) - Updated</td></tr>
<tr><td>9.6</td><td>Medical Provision at Events – Updated</td></tr>
<tr><td>9.7</td><td>Medical Equipment – Updated</td></tr>
<tr><td>10.2.1</td><td>Vaccinations – National Competitions – updated with the removal of the 6 months and 21 day requirement.
<table>
<tr><td>Vaccination Course Start date</td><td>Prior to 2005</td><td>Prior to January 2024</td><td>Post 1st January 2024</td></tr>
<tr><td>V1 (initial primary)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr>
<tr><td>V2 (2nd primary) *</td><td>21 – 92 days</td><td>21 – 92 days</td><td>21 – 60 days</td></tr>
<tr><td>V3 (1st Booster)</td><td>No requirement</td><td>Within 7 Months</td><td>Within 6 Months & 21 days of V2</td></tr>
<tr><td>Subsequent Booster</td><td colspan="3">Not more than 1 Year (12 months)</td></tr>
<tr><td colspan="4">Horses competing in events must not have received a vaccination within 7 days prior to arrival at the event. The horse can compete on the 8th day.

* Horses may compete after they have received both primary vaccinations.</td></tr>
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Note:
Disciplinary sanctions will be applied for vaccination violations as per Rule 3.8.1.</td></tr>
<tr><td>11.8</td><td>Social Medica Policy – Updated</td></tr>
<tr><td>Annex 1</td><td>Entry Fees – Updated</td></tr>
<tr><td>Annex 2</td><td>FEI Rules – Updated. See FEI Eventing Rules 2026 for full details</td></tr>
<tr><td>Annex 2</td><td>CCIP2* - Novice MER is completed as a Combination
<table>
<tr><th>LEVEL</th><th>RIDER TYPE</th><th>FEI REQUIREMENTS
(to be achieved by horse & rider combination)</th><th>GBR HORSE & RIDER REQUIREMENT
(to be achieved as a combination or separately)</th></tr>
<tr><td>CCI1*-Intro</td><td>All Athletes</td><td></td><td>2 x BE100
PLUS (1 x BE105 OR 1 x Novice)</td></tr>
<tr><td>CCIP2*</td><td>All Athletes</td><td></td><td>3 x BE100 / BE100 PLUS / BE105 PLUS 1 x Novice (as a Combination)</td></tr>
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<tr><td>Annex 5</td><td>BE80 3DE Rules – Included in Handbook

Removal of BE90Open 3DE section</td></tr>
<tr><td>Annex 6
2. 3</td><td>New General Note – 2. Entries
Combinations qualifying after the Ballot Date will only be accepted at the Organisers discretion and if the timetable allows for that specific class. If necessary, a Wait List my be held.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Annex 6</td><td>BE80 Regional & National Championships
Remove this point from Eligibility -
• ~~Combinations who have gained Foundation points in BE100 are not eligible.~~</td></tr>
<tr><td>Annex 6</td><td>Open Championships
The option to run this competition as a Advanced class or 4*</td></tr>
<tr><td>Annex 7</td><td>GOBE

<table>
<tr><td>Purpose</td><td>• To offer a British Eventing experience in a three phase competition, without the pressure of recorded results at BE70, BE80, BE90 and BE100 level.</td></tr>
<tr><td>Eligibility</td><td>Members
• have unlimited number of runs per calendar year/season with any horse
• Horse – with or without a season ticket

Non-Members
• have up to two runs per calendar year/season (2 horses = 1 run each or 1 horse = 2 runs)
• GOBE is only open to non-members who verify, via a tick box at point of entry, that they have their own Public Liability Insurance
• Horse – with or without a season ticket

Competitors will also need to verify, at point of entry, that they comply with BE rules, including BE Code of Conduct, Dress, Saddlery, Vaccination Rules and MER requirements.</td></tr>
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