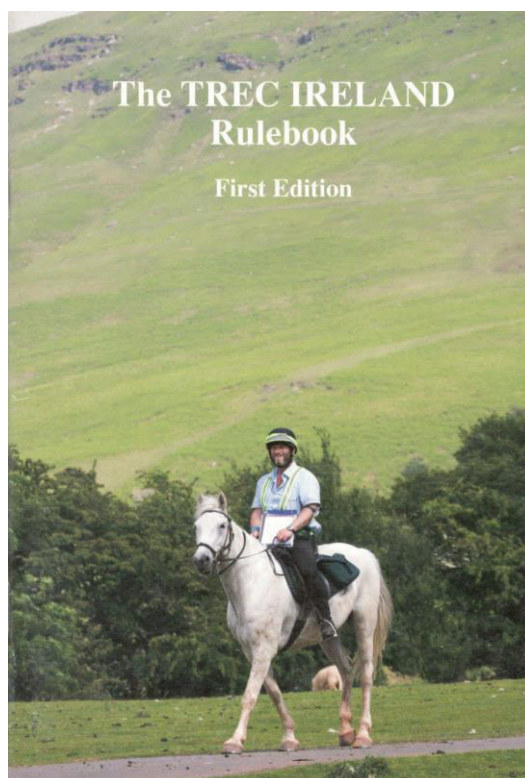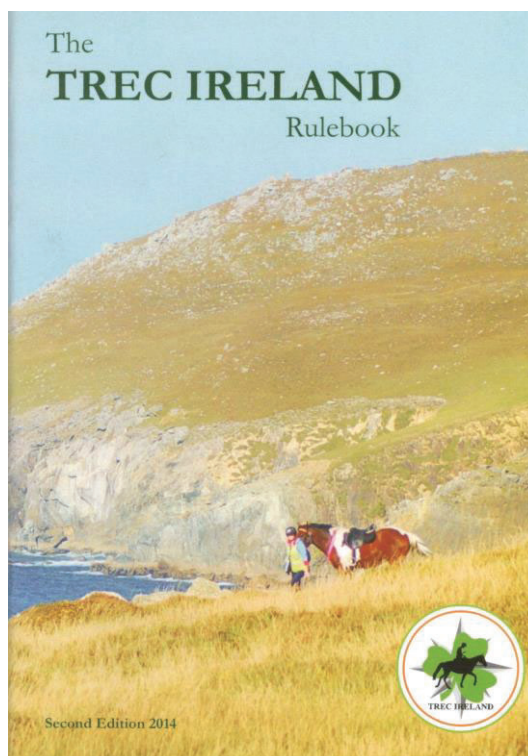| TREC Ireland Rulebook |
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| Second Edition 2014・Version 2025 |

Rulebook First Edition 2008

Rulebook Second Edition 2014

Abbreviations

CoP	Control of Paces
FEI	*Féderation Equestre Internationale*
FITE	*Féderation Internationale de Tourism Equestre*
HC	*Hors Concours*
HSI	Horse Sport Ireland
MA	*Maîtrise des Allures*
NETO	National Equestrian Tourism Organisation
POR	*Parcours d'Orientation et de Régularité*
PTV	*Parcours en Terrain Varié*
TREC	*Techniques de Randonnee Equestre de Competition*
WADA	World Anti-Doping Agency

Table of Contents

Chapter 1 FITE

1.1   General

FITE, the International Equestrian Tourism Federation, was founded on the 13th May 1975. This association is the international governing body for TREC and has membership across three continents.

1.2   Goals

The goals of FITE are:
- To group together NETOs at international level
- To use all means to facilitate relations and understanding between the different member organisations, to give them support, help and encouragement, to strengthen their authority and prestige
- To co-ordinate and harmonise their actions, to define the application procedures for Equestrian Tourism on an international level
- To promote all different types of ridden or driven Equestrian Tourism as well as all other types of equine leisure activities
- To promote the organisation of meetings and international equestrian competitions
- To organise, regulate, develop and promote TREC
- And, generally to show interest, at international level, in all issues concerning the horse relative to tourism, open-air activities, the environment, conservation of trekking paths and roads, as well as any question which could be directly or indirectly linked with one of the above-mentioned subjects, or any other similar or related subject.

1.3   Principles

FITE and the affiliated NETOs will act in accordance with the following principles:
- FITE recognises the exclusive role of the FEI regarding the regulation and the organisation of the traditional forms of equestrian activities including their competitions
- FITE is based on the principle of equity and mutual respect from all the affiliated NETOs without prejudice in regard to race, colour, religion or interior politics
- The affiliated NETOs recognise FITE as the only authority in regard to equestrian tourism.

Chapter 2 General Statement

2.1   Code of Conduct

FITE and TREC Ireland requires all those involved in equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse (see *Appendix 1*) and accept that at all times the welfare of the horse must be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences. Riders who stop to assist another competitor on safety grounds and who are instructed by the Technical Delegate/Organizer to remain with that rider are considered "Helpful Samaritans" and will be in neutral time.

In addition, the following behaviour by competitors or officials will not be accepted at any TREC Ireland affiliated event:
- Conduct in a manner which is offensive to the public, competitors, judges, organisers or other official
- Arguing with a judge, official or other competitor, use of abusive or threatening language, or behaving with contempt towards a judge, official or other competitor
- Ill-treatment in any way of a horse at any time or in any circumstance
- Dangerous riding
- Persistent breaking of the rules
- Failing to obey any reasonable instruction given by a judge, official, organiser or Technical Delegate.

If a competitor or official is reported for one of the above, they may be disqualified from the event and may be asked to appear at a hearing before a disciplinary panel.

2.2   Disciplinary Panel

The disciplinary panel:
- Meets up at the request of the chairperson or the directors of TREC Ireland.
- Consists of three members, two representatives from the executive committee of TREC Ireland and a representative from the competition organisers.
- It rules on incidents, which need further action: Ethical issues, such as brutality, bullying, animal welfare, doping, cheating, etc. The incident can be referred to the Disciplinary Panel by the Technical Delegate or the Ground Jury for consideration.
- Arranges a hearing within 14 days of the incident.
- Informs the competitor/official of the results within 24 hours of the hearing.

2.3   Ground Jury

A Ground Jury is required for all international and national competitions. National competitions are: **The Irish Championships** and the MA/PTV Championships.
The Ground Jury consists of a president, who is appointed by TREC Ireland, two national judges, and, in a consulting role only, the Technical Delegate. The two national judges are appointed by the president of the Ground Jury. A Ground Jury is recommended for competitions with higher level classes (3 and 4).

2.4   Interpretation of the Rules

TREC Ireland accepts that rules can never cover every eventuality and therefore, in matters which cannot be solved by interpreting the rules to the letter, any issues should be resolved by following the spirit of the text to reach the solution that is fairest to all participants.

2.5   Definition of Brutality

The definition of brutality can be defined as:

- Excessive use of the whip.
- Hurting the horse's mouth with sudden or violent movements of the reins/bit
- An excessive or persistent use of lower leg or spurs.

Excessive use of the whip (see FEI) may be considered abusive ro the horse and will be considered on a case by case basis by the Ground Jury according to, but not limited to the following principles:

a)   The whip shall not be used to vent a competitor's temper.
b)   The whip must not be used after elimination.
c)   The whip must not be used after a horse has passed the last exercise of a course.
d)   The whip must not be used over (i.e. a whip in the right hand is used on left flank).
e)   The whip must not be used on a horse's head
f)   The whip must not be used more than twice for the same incident.
g)   Multiple excessive use of the whip between exercises.
h)   If a horse's skin is injured or has a visible mark, the use of the whip will still be considered excessive.

Chapter 3 General Rules

3.1 The Competition

3.1.1 Aim
The competition is a combined event that aims to reward any horse and rider combination performing over a range of skills (*not all of them equestrian, e.g. map reading*) rather that their success in any one discipline.

3.1.2 Phases
The event consists of three phases:
1. The POR (*Parcours d'Orientation et de Régularité*) or Orienteering Phase
2. The MA (*Maîtrise des Allures*) or Control of Paces (*CoP*)
3. The PTV (*Parcours en Terrain Varié*) or Obstacle Course or Exercise course as per FITE Rule book.

3.2 The Organisation

3.2.1 Event Organiser
The event organiser is responsible for the efficient running of all aspect of the competition.

3.2.2 Acceptance of Rules and Conditions
Competitors are deemed to have accepted the general rules of TREC Ireland and the specific conditions of a competition by the act of entering that competition.

3.2.3 Technical Delegate
All competitions, at any level, run as part of the TREC Ireland national programme require the presence of an official steward, referred to as the Technical Delegate. The Technical Delegate is engaged by the organiser from a panel approved by TREC Ireland. The Technical Delegate is there as a representative of TREC Ireland and as such must ensure that the competition is run in a safe and fair manner, regarding the accuracy of information, the interpretation and application of the rules and the production of the results. At affiliated group events, an Assistant Technical Delegate may be present as Technical Delegate, if the Assistant Technical Delegate has been supervised and briefed prior to the event.
It is recommended that an assistant TD is appointed for National and International events in addition to a TD
At regional and local competitions, the decision of the Technical Delegate is final.
At international and national competitions, an appeal to the Ground Jury can be made against the decision of the Technical Delegate. (*See 3.8*)

3.2.4 Equine Health Check
An equine health check for the POR is a requirement at Level 3 and above.

3.3 General Conditions for Participation
3.3.1 Membership and Temporary Registration Fee (TRF)
Competitors in TREC Ireland Championship competitions are required to be members of TREC Ireland. The Executive Committee of TREC Ireland has the power to suspend this requirement. All other TREC Ireland events will be open to any rider providing they pay a temporary TREC Ireland registration fee for the event. This fee is set by TREC Ireland.

3.3.2 Individual and Pair Classes
Riders can compete as individuals or as pairs in the appropriate classes.

3.3.3 Age Requirements

Horses must be a minimum of four years old to compete at Levels 1 and 2, and five years old to compete at Levels 3 and 4 (*ie for Levels 1 and 2, a horse born on 24th May 2021 may compete after the 24th May 2025*).

Competitors must be a minimum of 5 years of age to ride independently at any TI event. Younger riders will be encouraged to participate in Lead-Rein classes with a competent handler (at events which include such a class). To ride in a POR phase at any event, competitors must be 16 years or older on the day of competition to compete as individuals, younger competitors may take part as a pair with a partner of 18 years or older.

Parents/guardians of participants under 18 years of age will be required to complete a Junior Participants form/Parental Consent form.

3.3.4 Horse and Rider Partnership

The competitor partners the same horse for all phases.

3.4 The Event

3.4.1 Competition

The competition will normally take place over one or two days. If run over two days, they do not have to be consecutive days.

3.4.2 Starting Order and Times

The starting order and the start times for the three phases are determined by the organiser.

3.5 Scoring

3.5.1 Method

The method of scoring each phase is described in each of their specific rules. The individual, pairs and team winners will be those who have gained the highest total points over all phases, POR + MA + PVT. In the event of equality on the total points, the results will be decided on the basis of total points on the POR + PTV phases, should there still be equality it is the result of the POR which is preponderant.

3.5.2 Pairs and Teams

In pair classes, the sum of both riders' scores determines their placing. Team placing will be determined on a similar basis.

3.6 Elimination

3.6.1 Elimination from the Event

Competitors will be eliminated for:
- Assistance in finding the POR route or communication of the route to other competitors. Verbal communication between competitors in the same level of competition on the POR course is not considered to be assistance in finding the route.
- Receiving outside assistance during the MA or PTV. Catching a loose horse is allowed.
- Being found guilty of using unauthorised substances, according to the current regulations of the FEI, HSI and the annual FITE guidelines.

- Being found guilty of using an undeclared communication device during one of the phases.
- Only mobile phones, smart devices and ==smart phones (powered off)== declared and sealed in the map room before the start may be in the riders' possession.
- Going back on their route after arriving at a checkpoint.
- Opening the pack and using the communication device, apart from reasons of safety or accident involving a horse or rider.
- Showing rude or aggressive behaviour towards officials or other competitors
- Remounting after a ~~second~~ fall during the PTV phase.
- Continuing on a horse which has been definitively stopped by the veterinary surgeon or designated competent official on fitness and/or welfare grounds.
- Competitors who are penalised for brutality at 2 obstacles of the PTV course. Brutality is deemed any behaviour that causes unnecessary discomfort to the horse. Ref to 2.5
- Not crossing the end checkpoint at the finish line of the POR.

3.6.2 Elimination from the phase but may continue and be placed
Competitors may be eliminated for:
- Not rectifying a PTV course error.
- Riding any of the MA or PTV course prior to the competition.
- Getting a score of zero on both stages of the MA for failure to enter the corridor within the three attempts.
- Having one falls during the PTV phase. (Ref to 6.10)
- If a competitor and/or a horse seems physically unable to continue a phase, the judges are entitled to stop the competitor by neutralizing the time and must inform the technical delegate as soon as possible

3.6.3 Pair Riders
In the event of one rider in a pair either withdrawing or being eliminated from the competition then:
- If, prior to the start of the first phase, the remaining rider may compete as an individual.
- If they have started the first phase, the remaining rider may complete the competition either HC or as a pair with only one scoring rider

3.7 Forbidden Substances

3.7.1 TREC Ireland Anti-Doping Policy
In general, TREC Ireland subscribes to the Anti-doping policies and regulations currently recommended by the HSI, FEI and FITE, as well as to all other relevant national legislation. TREC Ireland's Human Anti-Doping rules are the Anti-Doping Rules as adopted by the Irish Sports Council, as amended from time to time. The rules contained in the said Irish Anti-Doping Rules shall have effect and be construed as rules of TREC Ireland.

3.7.2 Human
A competitor shall be in breach of the rules if the analysis of a sample taken from them shows the presence in their body fluids of any quantity of any substance which is a forbidden substance or one of its metabolites or of a specified amount of an endogenous substance subject to quantitative analysis. Prohibited and restricted substances are listed in the International Standard Prohibited List issued by WADA and this applies to all TREC Ireland events. Current information concerning substances on the prohibited list can be obtained from HSI. It is deemed to be a breach of the rules to refuse to give a sample of their body fluids for the purpose of control of forbidden substances.

3.7.3 Equine
A competitor shall be in breach of the rules if they allow, knowingly or otherwise, a horse for which they are the person responsible, to compete in any competition under the influence of a forbidden substance as defined under current FEI, FITE, and HSI regulations. The person responsible shall be in breach of this rule if the analysis of a sample taken from the said horse

shows the presence in its body fluids of any substance which is either a forbidden substance or one of its metabolites or a substance which cannot be traced to normal and ordinary feeding and which by its nature is likely to affect the performance of the horse in competition. It is deemed to be a breach of the rules to unreasonably refuse to allow a horse that has competed or is about to compete to undergo any properly authorised test or examination if requested to do so by an officer of the Testing Authorities or the Organising Committee.

3.7.4   Consequences
Any competitor found guilty of the misuse of equine or human substances with regard to the above-mentioned rules is eliminated from the competition and may be subject to further action.

3.8   Queries/Complaints

3.8.1   Interaction with Judges
Competitors are not permitted to discuss timings or scores directly with the judges. Competitors may ask judges to record relevant observations.

3.8.2   Technical Queries
For team competitions, technical queries are formulated by the Chef d'Equipe. For individual events, they are formulated by the competitor. At National Events, before the competition begins, representatives may be nominated from affiliated group or one from each competition level, who will be contacted when results are published. Competitors, who may not be present, can lodge queries and complaints through this representative.
To be accepted, any technical query must be lodged with the Technical Delegate
- if it concerns a technical problem or a question relating to the regulations, before the results are displayed: For the POR phase the query must be lodged within 60 minutes of the last competitor finishing. For the MA and PTV phases the query must be lodged within 30 minutes of the last competitor finishing the phase in question.
- if it involves checking scores or their input into the computer system in the various phases for calculating results: POR-Queries must be lodged within 60 minutes of publishing the results and within 30 minutes of re-publishing the results. MA/PTV-Queries must be lodged within 30 minutes of publishing the results and within 15 minutes of re-published the results.
- if the results are published after 8pm, queries will be accepted 30 minutes before the vetting commences on Sunday. (*e.g. if vetting commences at 8am, queries will be accepted from 7.30 to 8.00am*)

The Technical Delegate's answer must be provided before the end of the competition.
The Technical Delegate cannot accept video evidence to settle disputes.

3.8.3   Complaints
A complaint can be lodged against a competitor or a horse during an event against the ranking or against the organisation of the event.
The right to lodge a complaint is exclusively reserved for competitors in individual events.
In team events the Chef d'Equipe can lodge a complaint on behalf of a competitor who is a member of the team.
To be valid, any complaint must be submitted to the Technical Delegate
- before the start of the event, if it concerns the organisation of the competition, the qualification of competitors or horses.
- within 30 minutes after the announcement/publication of the results of each phase, if it concerns the phase and the definitive placing.

Any complaint must be made in writing. No verbal complaints are admitted.
Any incident outside the organiser's control cannot be subject to a complaint.
The decision of the Technical Delegate must be in writing within two hours for POR and within one hour for MA and PTV, after the complaint has been lodged.

3.8.4 Appeals

At competitions, where a Ground Jury has been implemented, an appeal can be lodged against the decision of the Technical Delegate. The appeal must be lodged in writing within 30 minutes after the decision of the Technical Delegate.

Any appeal must be accompanied by the sum of 20 Euros which is retained by TREC Ireland in the instance of the appeal proving to be unsubstantiated.

The decision of the Ground Jury must be in writing.

3.9 Veterinary Inspection

3.9.1 General

Veterinary inspections may be held at any competition but must be included at full three-phase competitions for levels 2, 3 and 4 over two consecutive days. Two vets are necessary if there are more than eighty horses taking part in a competition.

The vet checks the condition of the horses at the start, at certain checkpoints and at the finish. They can decide if a horse needs to be temporarily held or definitively stopped. Their decision is final. The inspections must be carried out by a qualified veterinarian or may be carried out by another competent person only with the consent of the Ground Jury/Technical Delegate.

3.9.2 Procedure

The first veterinary inspection will take place before the start of the event, preferably the day before. It shall, in no instance, be organised between the time the competitor marks down the route on the map and the start of the POR.

There may be at least one inspection on the POR course for horses competing at level 3 and 4. It takes place 15 minutes after the arrival of the competitor at the checkpoint.

If possible, the area should be sheltered from wind. Watering points must be available to the competitors.

It is recommended, if circumstances allow, that horses competing at level 2, 3 and 4 may be inspected at the end of the POR phase. In this case, the vet's inspection takes place within 30 minutes after the return of the competitor to the finish-line checkpoint.

The competitor can be accompanied by, at most, one groom. The competitor who misses the finish-line checkpoint must present their horse at the veterinary inspection within 30 minutes after having passed the end of the route checkpoint.

The final inspection will take place before the MA phase.

The Ground Jury/Technical Delegate can carry out veterinary inspections at any point and at any time during the three phases of the event.

3.9.3 One-Day Competitions

Rule **3.9.2** also applies for one-day competitions.

3.9.4 Facilities

The inspection will take place in a designated flat area, in a straight line, on a firm but yielding surface without slopes.

3.9.5 Presentation

For both the initial veterinary check and that before the second day's competition, the rider presents the horse for the inspection in either a bridle or halter, but difficult horses and stallions must be presented in a bridle.

3.9.6 Veterinary Procedures
Heart Rate Monitoring:
- The heart rate will be monitored before the other tests.
- The heart rate must be 64 beats per minute or less.

- Should the heart rate be over 64 beats per minute the horse will be held; it may then be represented every five minutes, a maximum of three more times.
- If 30 minutes after the arrival, the heart rate is still greater than or equal to 64 beats per minute, the horse is eliminated from the phase.

Lameness Examination:
- This is carried out by trotting the horse in a straight line over a minimum distance of 20 m, with its head free.
- Any horse with a distinct gait irregularity on each stride will be eliminated from the event.

Metabolic and Clinical Examination:
- The veterinarian will carry out a clinical examination for signs of dehydration, wounds, saddle sores and/or generally poor body condition. This is left entirely to the veterinarian's judgement.

Minimum Shoeing:
- The minimum shoeing of the horse will be recorded.

3.10   Levels of Competition

3.10.1   Competition Levels
TREC Ireland competitions have four levels. At the higher level the complexity and technicality of the phases increases.
An advanced class A may be added at level 1 and 2 (e.g. Level 1A and Level 2A.)

3.10.2   Night Navigation
Only at Level 3 or above, and with prior warning, the POR phase may include a night-time section.

3.10.3   Grid References and Bearings
At advance level classes A, competitors are required to answer questions on grid references and/or compass bearings or riders may also be required to navigate a short bearings section and/or a short grid reference section on clear roads or tracks.
At Level 3 and 4, competitors should be prepared to use grid references (*six- or eight-figure*) and /or compass bearings only for the purposes of navigation.

3.11   Tack, Turnout and Equipment

3.11.1   Turnout
Competitors are expected to present themselves and their horse in a clean and tidy state, with all tack and equipment in a serviceable condition.

3.11.2   Rider Clothing and Equipment
*(*See *Appendix 2 for list and specifications)*
Competitors are expected to wear clothing that is suitable and practical for riding-out in the countryside.
An approved safety helmet with fastened chinstrap is compulsory for all competitors at all times when mounted.
Competitors under 18 years must wear a body protector during the PTV phase.
All competitors must wear a body protector and a helmet with no peak (in conjunction with A.I.R.C and Eventing Ireland) on the PTV course where fixed jumping obstacles are used within the PTV course e.g. in XC or derby style.
The organisers reserve the right to stop competitors starting with unsuitable equipment.

3.11.3 Horse Equipment

The tack must be suited to the horse and the type of competition. Side saddles are not authorised.

Tack can be changed between the phases. The same saddle packs are required for the whole duration of the POR. These may be set aside for the MA and PTV phases.

The use of fly-rider rug and or fly face covering is allowed in POR only.

Bit may be freely chosen and hackamores are authorised. It is also authorised to ride in a head collar.

3.11.4 Martingales

Fixed/standing martingales and other fixed reins are forbidden. Only running martingales are authorised. Horses cannot be lead through the reins running through the martingale for led obstacles.

3.11.5 Whips/Spurs

Competitors may carry appropriate riding whips and must be always held in the rider's hand or else it may be considered a dangerous method, but it can be discarded during a phase in a safe manner. The whip does not have to be the same in all three phases, nor does a whip have to be used in all three phases if used in one phase. The dressage stick is only permitted for MA phase.

The maximum length of the whip for the PTV phase is 75cm.

Spurs, if worn, must not exceed 3cm and must be rounded. If riders wear spurs they do not have to be worn in all three phases.

3.11.6 Compulsory Equipment

If any of the compulsory equipment is missing, two penalty points per missing item with a maximum of ten points are incurred.

The rider will not be allowed to start the phase until all items are provided. The competitor will be given time to obtain the missing equipment and re-present themselves. Their starting position may be moved to the end of the starting order of their level. If the competitor is part of a pair, the starting position of the pair may be moved to the end of the starting order of their level.

3.11.7 Additional Equipment

Two penalty points per missing item from the equipment list with a maximum of ten points are incurred.

- **Mobile Phones and Smart Devices (such as smart watches)**: TREC Ireland requires riders to carry mobile phones on the POR phase for use in an emergency (smart watches must be powered off). At full three phase events and 1 day event phones must be switched off and sealed in an envelope for riders of all levels. They should be sealed in a manner that allows organisers to check if the seal has been broken.

3.11.8 Inspections

Tack and equipment may be inspected at any time during the competition. The inspection will either require named items to be produced or will consist of a full inspection.

3.11.9 Inspections

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3.12 Shoeing

3.12.1 Minimum Shoeing

At the preliminary veterinary check, it is noted whether the horse is shod or not. The stated condition of the shoeing at this point is considered a minimum for the POR phase. The minimum shoeing must be marked on the rider's record card.

3.12.2 Other

Horses that are normally unshod may compete unshod.

A horse losing a shoe during the POR phase must be fitted with the appropriate footwear (*horse-boot*) and will not be permitted to leave a checkpoint without such a boot being fitted or a farrier replacing a missing shoe.

For POR, horses are presented during controls and the veterinary checks and/or equipment checks with the horse shod as during the whole of this phase. Horses wearing horse-boots may compete in other phases shod or unshod.

Time penalties will be incurred if the rider cannot leave a checkpoint at their allotted time.

At Level 3 and above it is compulsory for a rider to carry a horse-boot and emergency farriery kit. At Levels 1 and 2, this is not compulsory, but riders are strongly advised to do so.

3.13 Helmet Cameras

~~Competitors are not allowed to have cameras on their helmets during the MA and the PTV Phase. They may have them during the POR Phase with permission of the Technical Delegate~~. All cameras are forbidden.

Chapter 4 Specific Rules for the POR Phase

4.1   Definition

The principle of the POR is to follow the set route of a given ride at predetermined speeds. This route must be long enough to assess the fitness of the horse, and can vary according to the level of competition.

The route should include topographical difficulties creating route-finding problems and posing choices in terms of which route to take. The POR can be organised over a number of routes, within a period of less than 24 hours, and can include one night-time ride (Levels 3 and 4).

4.2   Outdoor Ethics

During the competition it is vital that competitors observe the seven principles of "Leave No Trace" (www.leavenotraceireland.org):

- Plan ahead and prepare
- Be considerate of others
- Respect farm animals and wildlife
- Travel and camp on durable ground
- Leave what you find
- Dispose of waste properly
- Minimise the effects of fire.

4.3   Speeds

4.3.1   General

The speeds for each stage are compulsory.

Each competitor's score is calculated on the basis of the difference between the times it takes them to cover the course, measured at check-points that are not known about in advance, and an optimum time calculated according to the set speed and the distance to be covered.

The speeds for each stage are between 6 and 12km/h. The average speeds are between 8 and 9km/h.

In mountain regions, involving major changes in altitude or steep slopes, the POR course may have stages with speeds of less than 6km/h.

4.3.2   Optimum Speeds

The optimum speeds are:

- Displayed on a notice board (*for the first stage in the map room*)
- Told to the competitors by the checkpoint steward at the start of the rest time between each stage
- Constant over the stage in question
- Chosen by the organisers between 6 and 12km/h.

The organisers must not impose the same speed on two successive stages.

4.4. Distance

Level	POR Distance
Level 1	maximum 15km
Level 2	maximum 20km
Level 3	maximum 30km
Level 4	maximum 40km

4.4.2   Measurement

Official distances are determined as a flat line measurement from the competition map.
The distances measured on the official map by the Traceur/Technical Delegate are the only ones to be taken into account.

4.5   Route

4.5.1   Map Scale

The route is shown to each competitor on 1:25000 or 1:50000 scale maps.
They must copy the route onto maps that are given to them.

4.5.2   Map Information

Only the official unmarked/marked/partial marked map supplied in the map room may be used by the competitors. All required information about the area, except the route, must be on the unmarked copy supplied, including the magnetic variation with its yearly decrease and the print date of the map used.

4.5.3   Map Room

The competitors are given an appropriate time prior to the start of the POR phase in the map room to copy their route - generally 20 minutes for Level 4, 15 minutes for Level 3 and a minimum of 10 minutes for Levels 2 & 1. Riders are not permitted to start the POR until their start time and may be requested to remain in the map room. The official start time for the first section begins when the time period for marking the map finishes, unless the competitor is informed differently.

4.5.4   Record Cards

The riders will be given record cards before they leave the map room. The record cards must be presented at each checkpoint to the checkpoint steward. Only the standard TREC Ireland record card must be used (see *Appendix 3)*. The record card is the decisive document for the scoring of the POR phase. The competitor must check the accuracy of the information therein, which is used to compile the results of that phase.

4.5.5   Bearings, Grid References

Certain stages can involve a route to be followed with a compass (*bearings*) or simply by being given the co-ordinates of a meeting point (*grid references*), which does not necessarily have to be a checkpoint.
Where bearings and/or grid references are to be used, the competitors must receive written instructions indicating what is expected of them at the start of the stage.

4.6   Start Line

The start line is made known to the competitors and is located at the exit of the map room. It is marked with a red and a white flag, red on the right, white on the left.

4.7   Start Time

The start time should not be before sunrise.
The ideal start time for the POR must be calculated so that the last competitor to start can get back before nightfall.

4.8   Optimum Time

The optimum time for each stage is rounded down to the minute.

4.9   Assistance

4.9.1   General
Any assistance to competitors, unless there is danger, is prohibited.

4.9.2   Verbal Communication
Verbal communication between competitors in the same level of competition on the POR course is not considered to be assistance in finding the route.

4.10   Stage Checkpoints

4.10.1   General
The competitors do not know the number and the location of the checkpoints. Checkpoints must be ridden in the correct order. The time taken for each stage of the POR phase is measured from when the start line and the finish line are crossed by the leading foreleg of the horse. For pairs it is the leading foreleg of the second horse.

4.10.2   Marking
The start and finish lines at each checkpoint are marked with two regulatory flags of a maximum of 0.30m high.
In the case of several routes and multiple finish lines at a checkpoint, each of the finish lines must be marked with the regulatory flags. In this case it is recommended to double-up these flags with pre-marker flags, which must be seen at all times by the stewards, but hidden from the riders, at a distance of no more than 100m from the finish line.
The flagging of more than one entry into a checkpoint should be avoided unless necessary.

4.10.3   Approach
When within sight of a checkpoint, competitors must go directly to it, not deviating from the marked route and without stopping. A change of gait is allowed. Stewards are not authorised to question a competitor who is at a distance greater than that of the pre-marker flags (*see 4.10.2*).
If a rider turns back once they have crossed over the imaginary line between the pre-marker flags they will be penalised.

Riders competing as a pair will be judged as one unit, e.g. one rider coming into a checkpoint incorrectly is treated as if both riders came into the checkpoint incorrectly.
Competitors who have arrived at a checkpoint cannot return to the stage just completed (*they are not allowed to ride back on the route they have already covered*).

4.10.4 Halt

A halt of between 5 and 10 minutes must be imposed by the organisers at each checkpoint. This halt may be increased to 15 minutes should it include a veterinary inspection.

The stewards have the power to change the halt time according to the circumstances, especially to avoid congestion at the checkpoint, but only by given consent of the Traceur/Technical Delegate. The time of the halt is neutral and is not taken account of in calculating scores.

4.10.5 Control of Shoeing

The checkpoint stewards must check the shoes on the competitors' horses when they arrive at the checkpoint. The minimum required shoeing of each competitor's horse is marked on the rider's record card.

If necessary, the riders must lift the leg of the horse for closer inspection. The quality of the shoeing is not taken into account but the shoe must be reasonably secure on the hoof.

4.10.6 Order of Departure

The order of departure from a checkpoint is decided only by the order of arrival at the checkpoint. No rider is deemed to arrive at the same time as another rider. The checkpoint steward must watch the finish line and decide which rider has arrived first.

The stewards must start the competitors according to the interval set when leaving the map room unless the steward has changed the halt to a shorter time (*see 4.10.4*).

4.10.7 Leaving the Checkpoint

The competitors, including both riders in a pair, must immediately leave the checkpoint at their allotted time as indicated by the checkpoint steward. Failure to do so will result in time penalties being incurred. The new start time will be marked on the competitors' record card and the steward's record sheet.

The only exception to this rule is at the start of a grid reference section.

4.11 Route Checkpoint (Ticket Point)

4.11.1 General

The course designer may also place some route checkpoints, or intermediate checkpoints, generally known as ticket points which must be flagged.

These may be on the marked route and therefore known as "good tickets" or off the marked route and therefore known as "bad tickets".

They may be unmanned. If unmanned tickets are used, an example will be explained/displayed at the tack check prior to going into the map room. If manned, the steward makes a note of the name of the rider and the time on the score sheet and the time also on the rider's record card, stamped or initial by the steward in a ticket box. The steward stops the rider only for a few seconds.

4.11.2 Bad Tickets

Bad tickets should be only used for safety reasons. If used, they must be manned. (*Exemption for grid reference sections: see 4.12.2*). They do not incur penalties.

4.11.3 Control

The fact that competitors have passed these route checkpoints must be validated by the checkpoint steward and must involve one of the following:

- Marking the record card
- Giving the rider a ticket
- Using orienteering type markers or punches
- Or any other way that all competitors will have been informed about before starting the phase.

4.11.4   Different Routes
It is advisable to use route checkpoints (*tickets*) when different competitors have different routes on part of a stage between two stage checkpoints.

4.11.5   No Stop
Competitors are not intended to stop at route checkpoints, unless it is to validate their route, nor is it intended to restore an interval between competitors.

4.12   Grid Reference Section

4.12.1   General
The rider is required to reach a given point, possibly passing through a number of other such points. These points will either be identified by a six-figure or eight-figure grid reference including the national grid identification letter or may have to be worked out from the information given. The riders choose their own route in order to arrive at the final point within the time limit. There is no penalty for arriving early.

4.12.2   Bad Tickets
If the rider has been instructed not to pass through certain points, these points can have manned or unmanned route checkpoints.

4.12.3   Procedure
The list of grid references is given to the competitor as they are due to leave the checkpoint at the start of the section.
The riders are allowed to stay in the checkpoint whilst marking their maps. The judge may ask the rider to move a short distance away from the checkpoint.

4.12.4   Incorrect Route
A rider cannot be penalised for coming into the finish point of this section on an incorrect route.

4.13   Bearings Section

4.13.1   General
The rider is required to reach their final destination by following a series of compass bearings and distances which are all measured on the ground (*unless stated*).

4.13.2   Map Sealing
The rider's map is sealed into an envelope; there is a penalty for opening the envelope before reaching her/his destination.

4.13.3   Speed
There is a set speed for the rider to maintain over the bearings with time penalties being incurred in the normal manner, i.e., for being early or late.

4.13.4   Types of Bearings
Any bearing given will be either a straight bearing, an indication of a track or a back bearing.

4.13.5   Procedure
The sealing of the map and the issuing of the bearings instructions will be carried out, during the checkpoint halt prior to the bearings section, allowing sufficient time for the rider to read the instructions and determine the correct exit from the checkpoint.

4.14 Finish Line Checkpoint

Competitors are not aware of its position. It can be located at any place along the route. Route record sheets are handed out to the stewards who inform the competitors of the place and the time of the veterinary inspection they must attend.

4.15 End of Route Checkpoint

Competitors are aware of this checkpoint's position. In principle it is at the entrance to the stables or the horse quarters.
If a competitor has not gone through the finish line checkpoint, the time they pass through the end of route checkpoint will allow calculation of the penalty points to be added to the penalties for missing the finish line checkpoint.

4.16 Falls

Competitors experiencing a rider fall or horse fall (*see 6.7.7 & 9.*) during this phase are required to report the details to the checkpoint steward at the next checkpoint. If a competitor fails to do this, they must report to the Technical Delegate as soon as possible and must not leave the venue without notifying the Technical Delegate or, if this is not possible, they must notify the event organiser before leaving the venue. This rule is for the safety and wellbeing of all riders. The competitor must also ensure that they fill out the required accident report form together with the event organiser/safety officer. If a competitor experiences a fall during the POR in a one-day event, they must notify the Technical Delegate/event organiser before the start of the next phase.
Failure to notify the checkpoint steward/Technical Delegate/event organiser will result in a penalty of 30 points for this phase.
A fall during this phase does not result in elimination unless the checkpoint steward considers the competitor, or the horse unfit to continue. The checkpoint steward can stop the competitor temporarily, neutralising their time, until the Technical Delegate decides whether the competitor can continue or not.

4.17 Penalties

The phase is marked by deducting penalty points from an optimum total of 240 points allocated to each competitor at the start.
The final result can be negative.

4.17.1 Checkpoint Penalties

Penalties are incurred in accordance with the following marking scheme:

Penalty Points	Description
30	For arriving by a route other than required.
30	For a competitor who does not maintain their horse in forward movement within sight of the checkpoint, while staying on the correct route towards the timed line. A change of gait is allowed. A competitor cannot be penalised for both "arriving by a route other than required" and "for not maintaining their horse in forward movement" at the same checkpoint.
30	For arriving with a map open on a stage to be executed with a compass.
50	For any missed checkpoint. The two successive stages on each side of the missed checkpoint will be considered as one single stage to be executed at the determined speed for the first of the two stages. If a rider misses the finish checkpoint their time will be recorded once they have returned to the venue.
30	For not being checked through a "good ticket" point.
30	For arriving at a manned "good ticket" point by a route other than intended. Exception is grid reference section
10	For a horse arriving at a checkpoint with shoeing that is not in conformity with the rules.
2	Per missing item from the equipment list with a maximum of 10 points.
30	Failure to report a fall.
1	For every full minute that a competitor does not leave a checkpoint, including the start line checkpoint/map room, at the allocated time. (*For example, a rider who leaves a checkpoint 4'59" after they should have left it will be penalised with four points.*) This will also apply where a rider is held at a checkpoint whilst fitting a hoof-boot. The new start time is given on their record card along with the penalty marks. Steward will notify the rider on the penalty

4.17.2 Veterinary Penalties

Penalty Points	Description
5	For every 5 minutes imposed by the veterinarian, maximum 15 points.

4.17.3 Time Penalties

Penalty Points	Description
1	For every minute late or in advance of the optimum time. The time taken is rounded down to the nearest minute. On compass bearing or grid reference stages the allocated time can be either optimum or maximum. For maximum times, the time penalties only start once the allocated time has been exceeded.

(Example for an optimum calculated time of 55':
A competitor taking exactly 54'59" will have a real time (rounded to the minute reading) of 54' and one penalty point.
A competitor taking exactly 55'59" will have a real time (rounded to the minute) of 55' and will have no penalties.
A competitor taking exactly 56'59" will have a real time (rounded to the minute reading) of 56' and therefore one penalty point.)
For every stage the score is calculated independent of the other stages. Time penalties for one stage cannot be set off against other stages.
If a competitor has missed one or more checkpoints, the time penalties are based on the total time for all stages. The optimum time for the stages is calculated with the last speed known to the competitor.

4.17.4 Level 2 A Penalties

Penalty Points	Description
10	For every incorrect answer to questions on grid references/compass bearings. if there is a normal ridden bearings or grid references section normal POR penalties will apply.

4.17.5 Handicap

Level 4 riders can only compete HC as individuals at level 1. They can compete as part of a pair but will be penalised with 15 points. At level 2 they can compete as individuals or as part of a pair but will be penalised with 10 points. They can compete at level 3 as individuals or as part of a pair without incurring penalty points. A rider is considered a level 4 rider if they have completed two full phase competitions at level 4.

Level 3 riders can only compete HC as individuals at level 1. They can compete as part of a pair but will be penalised with 15 points. They can compete at level 2 as individuals or as part of a pair without incurring penalties. A rider is considered a level 3 rider if they have completed either two full phase competitions at level 3 or one at level 3 and one at level 4. Level 2 riders can compete at level 1 as individuals or as part of a pair without incurring penalties. A rider is considered a level 2 rider if they have completed either two full phase competitions at level 2 or one at level 2 and one at level 3.

4.17.6 Additional Penalties for Loss of rider record card

Penalty Points	Description
-50 points less than the lowest POR Score in the class	Loss of the rider record card will result in a score of 50 points less than the lowest POR score in that class. If in a pair class the penalty is awarded per rider (i.e. -100)

Chapter 5 Specific Rules for the MA Phase

5.1 Aim

This phase is intended to show that an outdoor rider can make their horse go calmly in canter and quickly in walk along a given path.
The path will be marked as appropriate (mown, sand, paint, sawdust etc.).

5.2 Stages

5.2.1 General
The phase compromises two stages:
- Stage 1: a slow canter along a 150m long corridor, marked on reasonable level ground, 2m to 2.20m wide.
- Stage 2: a fast walk along the same corridor

5.2.2 Sequence
The first stage is carried out in canter and the return is carried out in walk.

5.2.3 Crossing Start and Finish Line
The horse must cross the start and finish line in the required gait.

5.3 Judging

5.3.1 Procedure
The MA phase is judged anonymously. The corridor is split into sections of 50m marked A, B and C (or A and B should the corridor only be 100m). The canter is A,B,C and walk is C,B,A. A minimum of five judges are posted along the corridor, plus two others, one at the start and one at the finish. The number of judges may be changed, provided that the Technical Delegate/Ground Jury agrees.
Each judge notes any faults on a form, including which section the fault is observed in (e.g. break in B). The judge must not show the form to either a competitor or to another judge. A fault of the same kind has to be noted by two or more judges, in order to be counted. The forms will be collected, and faults are marked by the Technical Delegate.
MA may be completed without stirrups, but stirrups MUST be crossed in front of saddle.

5.3.2 Corridor
The corridor is determined by the inside edge of the markings.

5.3.3 Attempts
The competitor has 30 seconds to cross the flags and enter the corridor after being instructed to start by the starting judge.

For both stages of this phase the rider is allowed up to three attempts to enter the corridor. After the third attempt they get a zero score for that stage. If they get a zero score on either stage for failure to enter the corridor within the three attempts, they have not completed the MA and is eliminated from the phase.

5.3.4 Timing

The timing will be started when the horse's leading foreleg crosses the start line and stopped when the horse's leading foreleg crosses the finish line.

The test must be timed both electronically and manually. This can be changed according to the circumstances, provided that the Technical Delegate/Ground Jury agrees.

5.3.5 Falls

A fall during the canter stage or walk stage of the MA will result in a zero score for that stage only. One fall during this phase does not result in elimination unless the Technical Delegate, considers the competitor or the horse unfit to continue. The judge can stop the competitor temporarily until the Technical Delegate/Ground Jury decides whether the competitor may continue or not.

5.3.6 Marking

A maximum of 30 points for each of the two stages can be attained.

MARK	CANTER	WALK
	Time in seconds	Time in seconds
30	33.80 or more	67.00 or less
29	from 33.60 to 33.79	from 67.01 to 68.00
28	from 33.50 to 33.59	from 68.01 to 69.00
27	from 33.30 to 33.49	from 69.01 to 70.00
26	from 33.20 to 33.29	from 70.01 to 71.00
25	from 33.00 to 33.19	from 71.01 to 72.00
24	from 32.90 to 32.99	from 72.01 to 73.00
23	from 32.70 to 32.89	from 73.01 to 74.00
22	from 32.60 to 32.69	from 74.01 to 75.00
21	from 32.40 to 32.59	from 75.01 to 76.00
20	from 32.30 to 32.39	from 76.01 to 77.00
19	from 32.10 to 32.29	from 77.01 to 78.00
18	from 32.00 to 32.09	from 78.01 to 79.00
17	from 31.80 to 31.99	from 79.01 to 80.00
16	from 31.70 to 31.79	from 80.01 to 81.00
15	from 31.50 to 31.69	from 81.01 to 82.00
14	from 31.40 to 31.49	from 82.01 to 83.00
13	from 31.20 to 33.39	from 83.01 to 84.00
12	from 31.10 to 31.19	from 84.01 to 85.00
11	from 30.90 to 31.09	from 85.01 to 86.00
10	from 30.80 to 30.89	from 86.01 to 87.00
9	from 30.60 to 30.79	from 87.01 to 88.00
8	from 30.50 to 30.59	from 88.01 to 89.00
7	from 30.30 to 30.49	from 89.01 to 90.00
6	from 30.20 to 30.29	from 90.01 to 91.00
5	from 30.00 to 30.19	from 91.01 to 92.00
4	from 29.30 to 29.99	from 92.01 to 93.00
3	from 28.50 to 29.29	from 93.01 to 94.00
2	from 27.80 to 28.49	from 94.01 to 95.00
1	from 27.00 to 27.79	from 95.01 to 96.00
0	26.99 or less	96.01 or more

The corridor must be marked into sections of 50m in length. Markers, to be clearly seen by each judge, should show each section.

5.3.7 Penalties

The quality of the canter is not taken into account. A four-beat canter is allowed. The walk is a pace of four-beat ~~times~~, any diagonalization will be penalised.

In both phase tests, competitor's score will be zero if they:

- Do not remain in the required gait.
- Step on or out of the corridor, even with a single hoof.
- Have a fall

Chapter 6 Specific Rules for the PTV Phase

6.1 Definition

This phase is intended to demonstrate the high degree of training required for a trail riding horse: obedience, confidence, courage, balance and surefootedness as well as the correctness and appropriateness of the rider's aids when negotiating obstacles which simulate circumstances that may be encountered in the countryside.
It is the rider-horse combination that is tested.

6.2 The Course

6.2.1 General
A route of up to 5km is to be followed in a set time. The speed will be determined by the Technical Delegate, at a maximum speed of 12-14km/h for Level 4. The time may be adjusted, according to the terrain, weather conditions, length of the course and the obstacles (increase of ~~15~~ 30 seconds for each in-hand obstacle and for obstacles listed in FITE's "Precision Obstacles"). This is given to the competitors as a time limit for the course.

6.2.2 The PTV is not a POR
The course does not include the task of finding the correct route. If necessary, in areas where the route is not clear, appropriate signs should be put in place.

6.2.3 Display
The marked route for each level must be displayed with:
- The start and finish gates
- The distance
- The maximum given time
- The obstacles, with name and number
- The approach method: In-Hand or Ridden
- Imposed gaits (*See 6.5.1*)
- Any grounds the competitors should not enter.

6.2.4 Compulsory Gates
Compulsory passage points/gates are forbidden.

6.2.5 Dangerous Ground
Dangerous ground or ground the rider should not enter for other reasons must be fenced off.

6.3 Obstacles

6.3.1 General
The course comprises of 16 obstacles, either natural or man-made that could be encountered when actually, on a trail ride. It must be completed in the correct order. The obstacles must be chosen from the TREC Ireland list of obstacles. (*See Appendix 4*)

Each obstacle can only be used once on the marked PTV course at national competitions.

6.3.2 Description of Obstacles
A certain amount of information is given when the obstacles are made from scratch.

This information is given in the TREC Ireland Data Sheets which can be consulted on the TREC Ireland website. In all cases it is recommended that natural obstacles are used wherever possible, whatever sizes and dimensions are used, as long as they represent a true obstacle without creating a dangerous situation and are within the maximum height and width if they are jumping obstacles.

6.3.3   Dimensions
The dimensions are either:
- Maximum heights and lengths and not to be exceeded
- Minimum widths and front widths.

For reasons related to terrain, weather or other, the course designer (*Chef de Piste*) can adapt these but only to make it easier.

6.3.4   Maximum Heights
The maximum heights for jump obstacles are:
- Level 4:   0.90m.
- Level 3:   0.80m.
- Level 2 A: 0.70m.
- Level 2:   0.70m.
- Level 1:   0.60m.

6.3.5   Associated Difficulties
The Chef de Piste can incorporate an associated difficulty on a course which can be placed before or after the actual obstacle. The rider may choose to do it or not. If they choose not to do it, they will not be marked. If they choose to do it, it will be marked for effectiveness only. If the horse refuses or steps back in front of the obstacle but after the associated difficulty, the rider can again choose to do or not to do the associated difficulty.
The course can have:
- Up to four associated difficulties for Level 4.
- Up to three associated difficulties for Level 3.
- Up to two associated difficulties for Level 2.
- Up to one associated difficulty for Level 1.

6.3.6   Combinations
Obstacle 23 (*Path Crossing*) is a combination and can vary according to the description in the data sheet.
The course can have:
- Up to two combinations with one or two strides for Level 4.
- Up to two combinations with one or two strides for Level 3.
- Up to one combination with two strides for Level 2.
- No combination for Level 1.

6.3.7   Related Obstacles
Related obstacles are obstacles aligned in a straight line or in a curve.
An obstacle is related to another obstacle when the distance between them is no longer than 18m.
The minimum distance between the exit flags of the first obstacle and the entry flags of the next obstacle is one stride.
The course can have:
- Up to three alignments of two or three obstacles in a straight line or in a curve for Level 4.
- Up to three alignments of two obstacles in a straight line or in a curve for Level 3.
- Up to two alignments of two obstacles in a straight line for Level 2.
- Up to one alignment of two obstacles in a straight line for Level 1.

6.3.8 Penalty Zones

Some obstacles have penalty zones.

These are marked zones which define the limits within which penalties are incurred.

Any step out of a penalty zone will result in a zero score for the obstacle.

6.3.9 Numbers and Flags

The start and finish lines must be marked with flags.

The obstacles are numbered from 1 to 16.

Each obstacle is numbered and flagged by ideally 1.5m high flags, red on the right and white on the left, with the number ideally on a 20cm x 20cm board positioned to the right of the obstacle. The number of flags to be used at any obstacle is stated in the TREC Ireland Obstacle Data Sheets.

On jumping obstacles, big flags are used to show the front of the obstacle clearly.

The height of the flags at obstacles which are marked by bars is at the discretion of the Chef de Piste.

Both horse and rider must pass between the flags which form an integral part of the obstacle in addition to its other features.

6.4 Start and Finish Line

The start and finish line of the PTV can be negotiated either ridden or in-hand at the choice of the rider.

6.5 Gaits

6.5.1 Choice of Gait

The rider is free to choose their gait between the obstacles.

The Chef de Piste or Technical Delegate may impose a gait at certain points on the course.

If a competitor fails to ride in an imposed gait, they will be eliminated from the phase.

6.5.2 Breaking Forward Motion or Change of Gait

This involves changing from one gait to another gait or stopping the forward movement of the horse.

The irregularity is only penalised on the obstacle itself as soon as the front feet pass between the entry flags or enter the penalty zone until the hind feet pass between the exit flags or leave the penalty zone.

For a horse that changes gait at an obstacle with several options (*walk, trot or canter*), in addition to the resulting penalties in the effectiveness column, the lowest gait will be used in the gait column of the score sheet.

A change in gait which is corrected is only one fault.

6.6 Walking the Course

The course is walked by the competitors without the horse. The time that the course is opened and closed for walking is set by the Chef de Piste or Technical Delegate and displayed on the notice board.

6.7 Definitions

6.7.1 Refusal
A stop at a jumping obstacle, followed immediately by a straight jump, is not penalised. The horse may make a sidestep, but if it backs up, even by one step, this is considered a refusal. After the refusal, it is considered a second refusal if the competitor:
- Tries again unsuccessfully.
- Or if the horse is presented after stepping back and stops and steps back again.

For a path crossing, a refusal or disobedience on the second part of the combination means that the competitor must reattempt all elements of the combination.

Three refusals at an obstacle means zero points being awarded for the obstacle, but the competitor continues and is not eliminated from the phase.

6.7.2 Run-Out
A horse is considered to have run out if, when faced with the obstacle, the horse avoids crossing it in such a way that the rider has to present the horse to the obstacle again.

6.7.3 Volte (Circling)
The rider is penalised for a volte if they re-cross the path taken before crossing the obstacle.
Having been penalised for a refusal, run-out or fall, a competitor may retake the original path by completing a volte without incurring a penalty so that they can present the horse to attempt the obstacle a second time.

6.7.4 Stepping Back, Circling
If a rider circles or steps back between the obstacles, they will be given three penalty points for disobedience by the judge of the following obstacle. If there are three or more circles they will incur a zero mark for the obstacle.
If a horse is stopped by a judge and put on hold, the competitor is temporarily not in competition and is allowed to step back and/or circle until they continue.

6.7.5 Not Attempted Obstacle
A rider not wanting to attempt an obstacle must:
- Show a clear break in any forward motion and come to a halt
- Inform the obstacle judge of their intention not to attempt the obstacle.
- Failure to do this will result in elimination from the phase.

6.7.6 Uncorrected Error of Course
An error of course is considered to have occurred when the rider:
- Does not complete the course according to the course plan.
- Does not go through the obstacles and start and finish lines in the correct order.
- Misses out an obstacle.
- Completes another level's obstacle instead of their own level.

An uncorrected error of course results in elimination from the phase, e.g. missing out an obstacle without informing the judge. This leads to a zero score on the PTV course.
If a rider negotiates a ridden obstacle in-hand or vice versa, it is a zero score for this obstacle but this is not an error of course.

6.7.7 Rider Fall
A rider is considered to have fallen when there is a physical separation between the horse and the rider in such a way as to necessitate remounting.

6.7.8 Loss of balance when Leading

A rider leading a horse is considered to have lost balance when a part of their body touches the ground unintentionally in order to keep their balance. The judge decides if it was intentionally or unintentionally. It will be noted as dangerous method.

6.7.9 Horse Fall

A horse is considered to have fallen when shoulder and/or quarter have touched either the ground or the obstacle and the ground at the same time. A horse on its knees is not considered to have fallen.

6.8 Priority

A rider who overtakes another competitor has priority unless the slower rider is in the middle of an obstacle
The rider who is overtaken is put on hold by the judge of the obstacle.
The time held is marked on the score sheet.

6.9 Time

6.9.1 General

The maximum time is determined by the Chef de Piste and validated by the Technical Delegate.

6.9.2 Penalty Points

Penalty points for exceeding the time allowed will be deducted from the total PTV points according to the following rules:

- One Penalty Point per tranche of 4 seconds.
- Under no circumstances will the time penalties exceed 30 points.
- Under no circumstances will the timer be stopped without the decision of the Technical Delegate/Ground Jury.

(Example if the maximum time is 8 minutes:
A competitor completing the course in 8'00" will not be penalised.
A competitor completing the course in 8'01"- 8'04" will receive a 1point penalty.
A competitor completing the course in 8'05"- 8'08" will receive a 2point penalty, etc.….)

6.10 Falls

Riders falling during the PTV phase will not be allowed to continue, all points scored up to that point will count and the rider is not eliminated.

6.11   In-Hand Obstacles

At In-Hand Obstacles horses should be lead either by the use of a lead rope or by the reins over the horse's head(ref to section 3.11.4). Failing to do so will lead to a penalty of -1.

- "Immobility-" once positioned within the circle the reins must be left on the horses neck .
- "Mounting" The reins can be left on the horse's neck when leading in and positioning the in the mounting area of the obstacle.

6.12   General Marking System

6.12.1   General

Marks will be awarded at each obstacle on a scale of 0 to 10. Effectiveness and Style, Gait, Action and Time are marked separately in accordance with the marking scheme.
Penalty points are given as outlined in 6.11.7.
All marks are given as stated in the TREC Ireland Data and Score Sheets. There cannot be a negative mark. The lowest possible mark is 0.

6.12.2   Effectiveness

This mark is determined by whether the obstacle is successfully negotiated or not, according to one, or combinations of any two or three faults. For the obstacle "Immobility", any action made by the rider while in the neutral zone will be marked as an Effectiveness fault.

Effectiveness	
Done	Not done
Passed	Not passed
Touched	Not touched
Moved	Not moved
Disobedience	No disobedience

And only according to this criterion the marks will be as follows:
This mark is to be entered in box E on the score sheet.

Fault	Points	Fault (at Timed Obstacles)	Points
No fault: Did not touch; No refusal or disobedience; Did not break stride.	7	No fault: No refusal or disobedience; No rider action while in neutral zone	"ok"
One fault: Touched once; 1st refusal or disobedience; Broke stride once.	4	One fault: 1st refusal or disobedience; 1st rider action while in neutral zone	-3
Two faults: Touched twice; 2nd refusal or disobedience; Broke stride twice. Any two combinations of faults	1	Two faults: 2nd refusal or disobedience; 2nd rider action while in neutral zone Any two combinations of faults	-6
Three faults; Touched three times; 3rd refusal or disobedience; Three breaks of stride. Any three combinations of faults	-10	Three faults; 2nd refusal or disobedience; 3rd rider action while in neutral zone Any three combinations of faults	-10

6.12.3   Style

The style mark will be added to, or subtracted from, the effectiveness mark. It will be awarded according to how the obstacle is negotiated:

Fault	Points
Very good	+3
Good	+2
Quite good	+1
Average	0
Mediocre	-1
Bad	-2

6.12.4   Gait

The mark for gait will be added to, or subtracted from the effectiveness mark on obstacles judged by gait*:

Ridden Gait	Points L1 & L2	Points L3& L4		In-Hand Gait	Points
Canter	+3	+3			
Trot	0	-2		Trot	+3
Walk	-2	-10		Walk	-2

*Note: Walk not permitted in ridden gait obstacles for Level 3 and 4.

6.12.5 Time

Time is the number of seconds the horse remains in the circle.

Seconds	Points
10	10
9	9
8	8
7	7
6	6
5	5
4	4
3	3
2	2
1	1

6.12.6 Penalties

The mark for penalties is deducted from the total marks for Effectiveness, Style, Gait, and Time:

General penalties (all or most obstacles)	Points	Remarks
Brutality	-5	
Dangerous method	-5	
Foot outside	-10	-10

Ridden obstacles	Points	Remarks
Fall of horse or rider	-10	Rider is stopped
One-Handed obstacles – touching reins with free hand	-10	

In-Hand Obstacles	Points	Remarks
Flapping stirrups	-1	Stirrups can remain down on western saddles – no penalties
Reins not over head of horse	-1	Exception: when leading horse in to mounting obstacle
Fall of rider (mark as dangerous method)	-5	
Fall of horse	-10	Rider is stopped

Timing penalties applied	Points	
Mounting – per second over allocated time	-1 per sec	
Mounted Immobility – more than 10 seconds to position horse and let go of reins	-10	

This mark is entered in box P (Penalties) on the score sheet. (-10 is recorded as 0 score overall)

Note: extra penalties may be applied to some obstacles, judges should refer to the relevant obstacle data sheet and score sheet.

6.12.7   Handicap

Level 4 riders can only compete HC* as individuals at level 1. They can compete as part of a pair but will be penalised with 15 points. At level 2 they can compete as individuals or as part of a pair but will be penalised with 10 points. They can compete at level 3 as individuals or as part of a pair without incurring penalty points. A rider is considered a level 4 rider if they have completed two full phase competitions at level 4.

Level 3 riders can only compete HC* as individuals at level 1. They can compete as part of a pair but will be penalised with 15 points. They can compete at level 2 as individuals or as part of a pair without incurring penalty points. A rider is considered a level 3 rider if they have completed either two full phase competitions at level 3 or one at level 3 and one at level 4.

Level 2 riders can compete at Level 1 as individuals or as part of a pair without incurring penalties. A rider is considered a level 2 rider if they have completed either two full phase competitions at level 2 or one at level 2 and one at Level 3.

*At the request of the rider, the TD may waive this HC status if the rider is competing on a green (inexperienced) horse.

6.13   Overall Mark

6.13.1   Total Score

The total score is Effectiveness plus Style/Gait/Time minus Penalties. The lowest possible score is zero. An obstacle cannot have a negative score.

$(E + S/G/T) - P$.

6.13.2   -10 Point

At all obstacles, a score of -10 points for Effectiveness or as a penalty result in is an overall score of zero for the obstacle.

6.14   Score Sheets

At each obstacle the judge is provided with a score sheet which includes a summary of the marking scheme for that obstacle.

Appendix 1: FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse

The FEI requires all those involved in international equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI's Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the Horse must be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.

1. At all stages during the preparation and training of competition horses, welfare must take precedence over all the other demands.

    a. Good horse management
        Stabling, feeding and training must be compatible with good horse management and must not compromise welfare. Any practice which could cause physical or mental suffering, in
        or out of competition, will not be tolerated.

    b. Training methods
        Horses must only undergo training that matches their physical capabilities and level of maturity for their respective disciplines. They must not be subjected to any training methods which are abusive or cause fear or for which they have not been properly prepared.

    c. Farriery and tack
        Foot care and shoeing must be of a high standard. Tack must be designed and fitted to avoid the risk of pain or injury.

    d. Transport
        During transportation, horses must be fully protected against injury and other health risks. Vehicles must be safe, well ventilated, maintained to a high standard, disinfected regularly and driven be competent staff. Competent handlers must always be available to manage
        the horses.

    e. Transit
        All journeys must be planned carefully, and horses allowed regular rest periods with access to food and water in line with current FEI guidelines.

2. Horses and competitors must be fit, competent and in good health before they are allowed to compete.

    a. Fitness and competence
        Participation in competition must be restricted to fit horses and competitors of proven competence.

    b. Health status
        No horse showing symptoms of disease, lameness or other significant ailments or pre-existing clinical conditions should compete or continue to compete when to do so would compromise its welfare. Veterinary advice must be sought whenever there is any doubt.

    c. Doping and medication
        Abuse of doping and medication is a serious welfare issue and will not be tolerated. After any veterinary treatment, sufficient time must be allowed for full recovery before competition.

    d. Surgical procedures
        Any surgical procedures that threaten a horse's welfare or the safety of other horses and/or athletes must not be allowed.

e. Pregnant/recently foaled mares
   Mares must not compete after their fourth month of pregnancy or with foal at foot.

f. Misuse of aids
   Abuse of a horse using natural riding aids or artificial aids (e.g. whips, spurs, etc.) will not be tolerated.

3. Events must not prejudice horse welfare.

   a. Competition areas
      Horses must only be trained and compete on suitable and safe surfaces. All obstacles must be designed with the safety of the horse in mind.

   b. Ground surfaces
      All ground surfaces on which horse walk, train or compete must be designed and maintained to reduce factors that could lead to injuries. Particular attention must be paid to the preparation, composition and upkeep of surfaces.

   c. Extreme weather
      Competitions must not take place in extreme weather conditions if the welfare or safety of the horse might be compromised. Provision must be made for cooling horses quickly after competing in hot or humid conditions.

   d. Stabling at events
      Stables must be safe, hygienic, comfortable, well ventilated and of sufficient size for the type and disposition of the horse. Clean, good quality and appropriate feed and bedding, fresh drinking water and washing-down water must always be available.

   e. Fitness to travel
      After competition, a horse must be fit to travel in accordance with the FEI'S guidelines.

4. Every effort must be made to ensure horses receive proper attention after they have competed and that they are treated humanely when their competition careers are over.

   a. Veterinary treatment
      Veterinary expertise must always be available at an event. If a horse is injured or exhausted during a competition, the athlete must dismount and a veterinarian must check the horse.

   b. Referral centres
      Wherever necessary, the horse should be collected by ambulance and transported to the nearest relevant treatment centre for further assessment and therapy. Injured horses must be given full supportive treatment before transport.

   c. Competitive injuries
      The incidence of injuries sustained in competition should be monitored. Ground surface conditions, frequency of competitions and any other risk factors should be examined carefully to indicate ways to minimise injuries.

   d. Euthanasia
      If injuries are sufficiently severe the horse may need to be euthanized by a veterinarian as soon as possible on humane grounds and with the sole aim of minimising suffering.

   e. Retirement
      Every effort should be made to ensure that horses are treated sympathetically and humanely when they retire from competition.

5. The FEI urges all those involved in equestrian sport to attain the highest possible levels of education in their areas of expertise relevant to the care and management of the competition horse.

    This Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse may be modified from time to time and the views of all are welcome. Particular attention will be paid to new research findings and the FEI encourages further funding ad support for welfare studies.

    The code is available on the FEI's website: www.fei.org

Appendix 2: Equipment List

Compulsory Equipment (Penalties: see Rulebook 3.11.6 and 4.17.1)		Phase
Approved protective hard hat complying with current standards: (For PTV no peaks allowed as per A.I.R.C and EI)		All phases
PAS 015 2011 (provided it has a BSI Kitemark or Inspec IC mark),		
VG1 01.040 (2014-12) provided it has a BSI Kitemark or Inspec IC mark)		
SEI ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards provided it has an SEI mark)		
SNELL E2016 (or later) providing it has a SNELL label and number		
AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards) providing it has an SAI Global mark.		
Medical armband		All phases
Horse ID with rider number and emergency phone number		All phases
Body protector *(Beta level 3 standard)* for competitors under 18 years. Required for all competitors (when fixed fences are on PTV course)	(Valid until 31st March 2024)	PTV
Lights, attached somewhere to the rider's body, with a white light to the front and a red light to the back		POR
Head collar, lead rope or combination bridle.		POR
For shod horses, emergency farrier's tools suitable for the removal of shoe and nails (one set of tools between a pair is sufficient) and correctly sized hoof-boot or similar. Compulsory Equipment for Levels 3 & 4, Recommended Equipment for Levels 1 & 2		POR
First aid kit for both equine and human. The main purpose of the first aid kit is to help stop blood loss and therefore must include: • 6 sterile swabs • 1 pair of round-ended scissors • 1 elastic bandage, around 10cm wide • 1 disinfectant or antiseptic solution.		POR
Fluorescent/reflective high-vis. clothing. The minimum requirement is clearly visible fluorescent strips on the area of the rider's torso.		POR

Additional Equipment (Penalties: see Rulebook 4.17.1)	Phase
Hoof pick	POR
Torch (lightweight but sufficient to read a map, a head-torch is ideal)	POR
Whistle	POR
Waterproofs, waterproof jacket as a minimum	POR
Mobile phone, sealed for all levels (smart devices and smart watches powered off)	POR

Recommended Equipment	Phase
Map case	POR
Saddlebag or suitable alternative	POR
Emergency telephone numbers *(supplied by the organisers)*	POR
Drink and snack	POR
Digital watch or stopwatch	POR
Compass	POR
Markers/pens for the map and making notes	POR

Appendix 3: Record Card

TREC IRELAND
P.O.R.
Competitors Record Card

Event	
Date	
Level	

Rider(s) Name	Number

Rider No.	Shoeing	NF	OF	NH	OH
	Shoes (S)/ Boots (B)/ Barefoot (X):				
	Shoes (S)/ Boots (B)/ Barefoot (X):				

Emergency Numbers	

CP	Arrival	Departure	Comment
CP1			
CP2			
CP3			
CP4			
CP5			
CP6			
CP7			
CP8			
CP9			

Route Checks/Tickets

TK 1	TK 2	TK 3	TK 4	TK 5	TK 6	TK7	TK8

Appendix 4: PTV Obstacles

The following PTV obstacles are approved for use in Championships:

Number	Obstacle	Number	
1	Low Branches	40	Slalom Ridden 1 Handed
2	Bank	41	Ridden 1 Handed Corridor
3	Riding One-Handed, Figure of Eight	42	One Handed 8 -Style
4	In-Hand Corridor	43	~~Ticket Punch~~ Road Closed
5	Ridden Corridor	44	Tree Roots
6	In-Hand Drop	45	Show Jump
7	Ridden Drop	46	In-hand Show Jump
8	In-Hand Step-Up		
9	Ridden Step-Up		
10	Dip		
11	In-Hand Staircase Down		
12	Ridden Staircase Down		
13	In-Hand Staircase Up		
14	Ridden Staircase Up		
15	In-Hand Ditch		
16	Ridden Ditch		
17	Water Crossing		
18	Hedge		
19	Immobility		
20	Mounted Immobility (Steady in the Saddle)		
21	In-Hand S-Bend Test		
22	Ridden S-Bend Test		
23	Mounting		
24	Path Crossing		
25	In-Hand Footbridge		
26	Ridden Footbridge		
27	Leading Up an Incline		
28	Riding Up an Incline		
29	Leading Down an Incline		
30	Riding Down an Incline		
31	Gate		
32	Ridden Rein Back		
33	Slalom		
34	Tree Trunk		
35	In-Hand Tree Trunk		
36	Horse Trailer		
37	In-Hand Rein Back		
38	The Shamrock		
39	In-Hand Gate		

Appendix 5: Categories of Obstacles

Obstacles judged by Style where a change of gait is NOT penalised

- - - - - - - - - - S/Sheet 3: Ridden, Style - - - - - - - - - -

Ridden Drop (7)	Path Crossing (24)
Ridden Step-Up (9)	Gate (31)
Ridden Ditch (16)	Ridden Tree Trunk (34)
Hedge (18)	~~Ticket Punch (43)~~ Show Jump (45)

- - - - - - - - - S/Sheet 4: In-Hand, Style - - - - - - - - - -

In-Hand Drop (6)	In-Hand Tree Trunk (35)
In-Hand Step-Up (8)	In-Hand Gate (39)
In-Hand Ditch (15)	In-Hand Show Jump (46)

- - - - - - - - - S/Sheet 6: Mounting, Style - - - - - - - - - -

Mounting (23)

Obstacles judged by Style where a change of gait is penalised

- - - - - - - - - - S/Sheet 3: Ridden, Style - - - - - - - - - -

Bank (2)	Riding Down an Incline (30)
Dip (10)	Ridden Rein Back (32)
Riding Up an Incline (28)	One-Handed 8 – Style (42)

- - - - - - - - - S/Sheet 4: In-Hand, Style - - - - - - - - - -

Leading Up an Incline (27)	In-Hand Rein Back (37)
Leading Down an Incline (29)	

Obstacles judged by Style where WALK or TROT is compulsory

- - - - - - - - - - S/Sheet 3: Ridden, Style - - - - - - - - - -

Ridden Staircase Down (12)	Ridden Footbridge (26)
Ridden Staircase Up (14)	Road Closed (43)
Water Crossing (17)	Tree Roots (44)
Ridden S-Bend Test (22)	

- - - - - - - - - S/Sheet 4: In-Hand, Style - - - - - - - - - -

In-Hand Staircase Down (11)	In-Hand Footbridge (25)
In-Hand Staircase Up (13)	Horse Trailer (36)
In-Hand S-Bend Test (21)	

Obstacles judged by Gait (change of gait is penalised)

- - - - - - - - - - S/Sheet 1: Ridden, Gait - - - - - - - - - -

Low Branches (1)	The Shamrock (38)
Riding One-Handed, Figure of Eight (3)	Slalom Ridden One-Handed (40)
Ridden Corridor (5)	Ridden One-Handed Corridor (41)
Slalom (33)	

- - - - - - - - - - S/Sheet 2: In-Hand, Gait - - - - - - - - - -

In-Hand Corridor (4)

Obstacles judged by Time

- - - - - - - - - - S/Sheet 5: Immobilities, Time - - - - - - - - - -

In-Hand Immobility (19)	Mounted Immobility(20)

Obstacle timed but judged by style: **Mounting (23)**

Appendix 6: TREC Ireland Rules on Training, Promotion & Certification of Judges

Assistant Judges

Formation	Experience	Judging
Attendance of a judge's training course	No judging experience required	Judging at a minimum of three regional and/or national events[1] within two years
Assistant judges are not certified but will be certified as Regional Judges at the discretion of their trainer once they have completed their practical experience. If they fail to have completed the practical experience within the two years following the course, they will be deleted from the panel. At least one of the events must be a full 3- phase competition, approved by the trainer as being of suitable standard for this purpose.		

Regional Judges

Formation	Experience	Judging
Attendance of a judge's training course. A refresher course must be attended every three years.	Judged at a minimum of three regional and/or national events. At least one of the events must be a full 3-phase competition, approved by the trainer as being suitable for this purpose.	Judged at a minimum of 3 regional and or national events in the past 3 years.
Regional Judges are awarded a Regional Judges Certificate. After certification, they are required to judge a minimum of 3 competitions and must attend a refresher course every three years.		

National Judges

Formation	Experience	Judging
Regional Judges Certificate. Attendance of a national judges training course. A refresher course must be attended every two years.	Judged at a minimum of two national or regional events at Level 3 or higher.	Judged a minimum of two national or international or regional events at Level 3 or higher in the past two years.
National Judges are awarded a National Judges Certificate once they have judged at a minimum of two National Events or 2 Regional MA/PTV events, at Level 3 or higher. It is at the trainer's discretion to request more experience prior to awarding the certificate. If they fail to attend the refresher courses every two years and/or the practical judging, they will be downgraded to Regional Judges.		

All judges are advised to keep a logbook where details of training courses and practical judging recorded for their personal records.

The organiser/event secretary of each Group sends the record of judges and officials to the Accreditation Coordinators accreditation@trecireland.com (by returning the page 4 of the event notification) who update the lists annually.

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[1] In relation to judging a national event is considered as a full 3-phase event which includes level 3 or higher and the National MA/PTV Championships. Regional MA/PTV that were supervised by an experienced TD and laid out to National Standards & Specification.

Appendix 7: FITE Rules on Training & Promotion of International Judges & Trainer of Judges

The quality of the training of judges is an essential part of the technical evaluation of our competitors and the credibility of our competitions.

International Judges:

Formation	Experience	Judging
Attendance of a course by the NETO every two years	National judge since three years	Judged a minimum of three national events in the past two years
The NETO must provide a certificate containing: The place, the date of the course and the name of the course instructor; The number of judged events, specifying the place, date and the name of the President of the Jury for each event. The NETO sends the complete file to FITE who investigates and decides on its validation.		

Trainer of International Judges:

Formation	Experience	Judging
Attendance of a course by FITE every two years	International judge since three years	Judged a minimum of two national events and one international event in the past two years
The NETO must provide two certificates: • One for the training: stating the place, date and name of the course instructor; • One for the number of the judged events considered: specifying the place, date and the name of the President of the Jury for each event. The NETO sends the completed file to FITE who investigates and decides on its validation.		

At Championships only judges, who are proposed by their NETO, are accepted.

Appendix 8: FITE Groups of Exercise

Group	Exercises
Group 1: Ridden, Gaits	Low Branches
	Riding One-Handed, Figure of Eight
	Ridden Corridor
	Slalom
Group 2: In- hand, Gait	In-hand corridor
Group 3: Ridden, style	Ridden Tree Trunk
	Ridden Rein Back
	Ridden Footbridge
	Ridden Incline
	Ridden Decline
	Ridden S-Bend
	Ridden Ditch
	Ridden Staircase Up
	Ridden Staircase Down
	Ridden Step Up
	Ridden Step Down
	Ridden Dip
	Ridden Path crossing
	Ridden Gate
	Ridden Hedge
	Ridden Water crossing
	Ridden Bank
Group 4: In-hand , style	In-Hand Tree Trunk
	In-Hand Rein Back
	In-Hand Footbridge
	In-Hand Incline
	In-Hand Decline
	In-Hand S-Bend
	In-Hand Ditch
	In-Hand Staircase Up
	In-Hand Staircase Down
	In-Hand Step Up
	In-Hand Step Down
Group 5: Immobility, Time	Immobility Ridden
	Immobility Led
Group 6: Mounting	Mounting

Appendix 9: D-TREC

1. D-TREC originated from Versatile TREC, but emphasises more the dressage movements. Affiliated groups may run D-TREC events in a less formal way, more akin to Versatile TREC. In this case, with permission of the Technical Delegate, some of the following rules may be adapted.

2. D-TREC will be judged by two judges. A dressage judge will judge the dressage movements of the test including the "style" at the TREC obstacles. They will be looking for balance, rhythm, obedience, and effectiveness of rider aids. A TREC judge will mark faults and penalties at the TREC obstacles.

3. The TREC marks will be added to the Dressage marks:
   - Maximum mark for each obstacle is "7". The style is marked by the dressage judge and there is no choice of gait.
   - Faults and penalties are deducted from the maximum mark.
   - Example: The rider has touched a pole once at the slalom: "3" points are deducted from the "7" points and they get a "4".
   - If a rider does not do the obstacle in the gait asked, they will be marked with a "0". A change of gait (break) in an obstacle, which requires a certain gait, will also be marked "0".
   - A Run-Out (passing an obstacle involuntarily) will result in a "0" for the obstacle.
   - An error of course at the TREC obstacles can be rectified and such an error of course leads to "-5" penalties for the first error, "-10" for the second error and an overall "0" for the overall TREC marks for a third error of course.
   - An error of course in the dressage movements can be rectified. The dressage judge will alert the rider and allow them to restart the movement. Penalties apply as per Dressage Ireland rules.

4. Riders may have the test called out but outside assistance will result in elimination from the class. The rider must provide their own caller. A penalty will be imposed for having the test called, "-5" at group events and "-10" at National events.

5. Obstacles in Novice tests will be set to Level 1 measurements. Obstacles in the Intermediate test and the Open test will be set to Level 2 measurements.

6. Equipment, Turn Out:
   - Boots and bandages are allowed.
   - A jumping or dressage stick is allowed.
   - Competitors in the Intermediate and Open classes may wear spurs. (Spur rules: see Dressage Ireland rulebook.). Spurs are not permitted in Novice classes.
   - Martingales are not permitted.
   - Any incorrect equipment will incur a penalty of 10 points.
   - There is no dress code for D-TREC but horse and rider must be presented clean and neat.

7. If a rider does not want to do an obstacle, they must ride up to the TREC judge before the start and tell the judge which obstacle they will not do.

8. At national events the D-TREC should, where possible, be ridden in a 20m x 60m arena.

Appendix 10: Speed TREC

1. General

Speed TREC is a variation of the standard PTV.
It is a timed competition, similar to a Jump Off in Show Jumping. The fastest time wins (except for novice riders).
Novice riders compete over the same course as the Speed TREC class, however they are judged as per TREC rules and to the same time allowed as for the first round.
 The objectives of Speed TREC are
- to test the rider's ability to plan an optimum approach to related obstacles so as to negotiate them in the best possible time without incurring time penalties due to poor execution.
- To test the rider's balance, coordination and anticipation.
- To test the horse's attention to the rider's aids.
- To test the horse's suppleness, submission and obedience.
- To test the horse's ability to negotiate the obstacles with accuracy and finesse.

2. Rules specific to Speed TREC

2.1 Speed TREC is only allowed in an enclosed arena or an area, which size is clearly marked (with visible flagpoles, traffic cones, etc.). Maximum dimensions are 80m x 80m.Slightly larger areas must be approved in writing by a Technical Delegate.

2.2 Time penalties are added for faults (*see below: 3. Scoring specific to Speed TREC*).
 Faults are the same as in standard PTV.

2.3 No style or gait marks are given.

2.4 Mounting is not timed.

2.5 Brutality, dangerous riding and dangerous method are penalized with 5 seconds and, if penalized for either or both at 3 obstacles, the rider is eliminated.

2.6 Riders can choose not to attempt an obstacle, but must come to a complete stop at the obstacle and inform the judge, while stopped. The rider is penalized with 10 or 25 seconds, depending on the obstacle.
 (*See below: 3. Scoring specific to Speed TREC*).
 Failure to stop or not informing the judge of the intention not to attempt the obstacle while stopped is penalized with elimination.

2.7 Where riders finish with the same time score, after penalties and bonuses, the rider with the fewer net penalties is placed higher.

2.8 In addition to the standard PTV obstacles it is recommended to add a "Collected Canter obstacle" with a corridor 2m wide and 50m long.(*for scoring see below: 3. Scoring specific to Speed TREC*)

2.9 Refusal, Run-Out, Rectified Error of Course are penalized as faults as in " normal" PTV

2.10 The maximum heights are: Novice   60cm, Intermediate   80cm and Open   90cm.

Scoring specific to Speed TREC

Time penalties	Obstacles
Obstacles, where a change of gait is not penalised: • 3 seconds for 1 fault, 6 seconds for 2 faults, 10 seconds for 3 faults • 10 seconds for not attempting ridden obstacles • 25 seconds for not attempting in-hand obstacles • 10 seconds for stepping outside or for not completing an obstacle	• In-Hand Drop (6) • Ridden Drop (7) • In-Hand Step Up (8) • Ridden Step Up (9) • In-Hand Ditch (15) • Ridden Ditch (16) • Hedge (18) • Path Crossing (24) • Gate (31) • Ridden Tree Trunk (34) • In-Hand Tree Trunk (35) • In-Hand Gate (39) • ~~Ticket Punch (43)~~ • Show Jump (45) • In-Hand Show Jump (46)
Obstacles, where a change of gait is penalised: • 3 seconds for 1 fault, 6 seconds for 2 faults, 10 seconds for 3 faults • 10 seconds for not attempting ridden obstacles • 25 seconds for not attempting in-hand obstacles • 10 seconds for stepping outside or for not completing an obstacle	• Bank (2) • Dip (10) • Leading Up an Incline (27) • Riding Up an Incline (28) • Leading Down an Incline (29) • Riding Down an Incline (30) • Ridden Rein Back (32) • ~~Horse Trailer (36)~~ • In-Hand Rein Back (37) • One Handed 8 – Style (42)
Obstacles, where walk or trot is compulsory: • 3 seconds for 1 fault, 6 seconds for 2 faults, 10 seconds for 3 faults, but 10 seconds for a break to a gait other than specified ~~trot or canter~~ • 25 seconds additional, if break is not corrected immediately or when the obstacle is judged to have been completed in a gait other than specified ~~trot or canter~~ • 25 seconds for not attempting the obstacle • 10 seconds for stepping outside or for not completing an obstacle	• In-Hand Staircase Down (11) • Ridden Staircase Down (12) • In-Hand Staircase Up (13) • Ridden Staircase Up (14) • Water Crossing (17) • In-Hand S-Bend (21) • Ridden S-Bend (22) • In-Hand Footbridge (25) • Ridden Footbridge (26) • Horse Trailer (36) • Road Closed (43) • Tree Roots (44)
Obstacles judged by gait: • 3 seconds for 1 fault, 6 seconds for 2 faults, 10 seconds for 3 faults • 10 seconds for not attempting ridden obstacles • 25 seconds for not attempting in-hand obstacles • 10 seconds for stepping outside or for not completing an obstacle	• Low Branches (1) • One Handed Figure of Eight (3) • In-Hand Corridor (4) • Ridden Corridor (5) • Slalom (33) • The Shamrock (38) • Ridden one handed Corridor (41) • Slalom Ridden 1 handed (40)

Time Penalties	Obstacles
Obstacles judged by time: • 3 seconds for 1 fault, 6 seconds for 2 faults, 10 seconds for 3 faults • 10 seconds for not attempting Mounted Immobility • 25 seconds for not attempting Immobility and Mounting • 10 seconds for stepping outside or for not completing an obstacle	• Immobility (19) • Mounted Immobility (20) • Mounting (23)
Collected Canter: • 0 seconds for a time of 11seconds or slower • 10 seconds for break from canter • 10 seconds for a time of 9 to 10.99 seconds • 10 seconds for foot outside • 20 seconds for a time of 9 seconds or faster • 20 seconds for not going through finish flags •	• Collected Canter

Time Bonus	Obstacles
• 2 seconds (deducted from the overall time) for every second the horse remains in the inner circle/circle	• Immobility (19) • Mounted Immobility (20)

Revision History: Rules Change 2025

Section:	Updated Summary:
Chapter 3 General Rules **3.3.3 Age Requirements**	Min. of age of 5-year-old and can ride independently
3.3.3 Age Requirements	Younger riders are encouraged to participate in lead rein classes with a competent handler
3.6.1 Elimination from the Event	Smartwatch (powered off) ~~Second~~ fall removed
3.11.2 Equipment	Helemt no peak for PTV (in conjunction with A.I.R.C and Eventing Ireland)
3.11.4 Martingales	Horses cannot be lead through the reins running through the martingale for led obstacles
3.11.7 Additional Equipment	Smart Devices such as smart watches and included 1-day events
Chapter 4 Specific rules for POR **4.4.1 Table**	<table><tr><th>Level</th><th>POR Distance</th></tr><tr><td>Level 2</td><td>maximum 20km</td></tr><tr><td>Level 3</td><td>maximum 30km</td></tr><tr><td>Level 4</td><td>maximum 40km</td></tr></table>
Chapter 6 Specific rules for PTV **6.2.1 General**	Increase to 30 seconds from 15 seconds.
6.3.4 Maximum Heights	The maximum heights for jump obstacles are: • Level 4: 0.90m. • Level 3: 0.80m. • Level 2 A: 0.70m. • Level 2: 0.70m.
Appendix 4 PTV Obstacles **Appendix 5 Category of Obstacles** **Appendix 10 Speed TREC**	Update list/categories for the obstacles added