



Fence Steward Guidelines (Cross-Country)

General

1. Familiarise yourself with your fence, making sure you park/sit in a position from which you can view the take off and landing of all elements of the fence.
2. Ensure the course is kept clear of spectators and that all dogs are on leads once the competition has started.
3. Report any problems regarding the fence, e.g. deterioration in the ground in front of or behind the fence, damage to fence etc.
4. Tread in the ground if it tends to get dug up.
5. Remain at your fence until the last score sheet has been collected

Judging

1. Refusal
A sustained stop in front of an obstacle or element = REFUSAL
A stop followed by a step back = REFUSAL
A stop followed immediately by a jump from halt = NO REFUSAL
A step sideways followed immediately by a jump = NO REFUSAL

On the third refusal please clearly instruct the competitor that he/she has been eliminated and ask them to leave the course at a walk.

2. Run Out
A horse avoids the element or obstacle to which it is presented
A horse avoids the element in such a way that it has to be represented to it.

Circle: A horse is considered to have circled if, before, during or after the negotiation of an obstacle, it completes a circle by crossing the track that it made before it jumped the last element of the obstacle.

3. Falls
Rider: A competitor who becomes separated from horse so as to require remounting.
Horse: When at the same time, its shoulder and quarters have touched either the ground or the obstacle and the ground.

If rider and/or horse fall, this incurs elimination

Marking the Cross-Country Score Book

1. Write your name, fence number and sheet number on top of each sheet.
2. Make sure the pressure card is inserted between each pair of sheets before writing.
3. Record clearly each competitor's number making sure you see it before you write it. If you miss a number write down the colours and then the other distinguishing features, e.g. grey horse – **do not guess.**
4. Write clearly and in capital letters.
5. Record what happens when the horse jumps the obstacle, i.e. clear, refusal, fall etc. If in any doubt, write a comment
6. If the horse is not presented to the fence, or jumps the wrong part of the fence, this is elimination.
7. Give the score sheets to the collector, even if not full – note only that the top sheet (white) is to be given to the collector.

Hold Up

If, for any reason, a competitor is held up on the course, please ensure you record the time they are stopped for, as this will be deducted from their time by the scorers.

Forbidden Assistance

Any intervention by a third party, solicited or not, intended to help a competitor is forbidden.

It is also forbidden to assist a rider to rectify an error of course.

Exceptions

After a fall of rider, or if a competitor dismounts, they may be helped to catch their horse, adjust saddlery and remount.

Whip, headgear, spectacles or false teeth may be handed to the competitor without dismounting.