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Resource List

- USPC website www.ponyclub.org
- USPC Eventing website www.ponyclub.org/Members/Disciplines/Eventing
- USPC Eventing Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/EventinginUSPC>
- USEF website www.usef.org
- USEA website www.useventing.com
Discover Eventing website www.discovereventing.com

Reminder: This is a new Rulebook for 2020. Additions, deletions and changes have been made since the last rulebook was issued. Be sure to read the *entire* publication carefully so you will be aware of all the rules for the upcoming rally season.

This Rulebook should be kept in a 3-ring binder to allow for addition of revisions and new instructional sections. Do not remove pages from your Rulebook; be sure to make copies of all forms and charts before writing on them.

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bility. Adult members and leaders should refrain from using alcohol or other substances that may adversely affect their judgment at any time that they are acting, or may be called upon to act in a responsible position.

A notation must be on the medical card/bracelet that a prescription medication is being used. This policy applies for the duration of the Pony Club activity. Duration of a Pony Club activity is defined in USPC Policy 0500 as being "A period of time beginning with the official opening of the activity and ending with the official closing of the activity."

Any underage Pony Club member found to be using, in possession of, or under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or other age restricted or illegal substances during a USPC sponsored activity shall be disqualified and barred from further participation in that activity. Any adult Pony Club member found to be using, in possession of, or under the influence of illegal substances during a USPC sponsored activity shall be disqualified and barred from further participation in that activity.

Any adult attending, participating, assisting with, officiating or chaperoning at any USPC sponsored activity whose behavior is inappropriate or creates a potential hazard to the safety and/or well-being of Pony Club members, officials, mounts, or other individuals may, at the discretion of the officials in charge of the activity, be asked to leave and be barred from the remainder of the activity.

Smoking is strictly forbidden in and around stable areas.

Article 9—Mounts (Policy 0910.A)

Mounts used at a regional or interregional rally should be the participant's regular USPC mount, and be accustomed to being handled by its rider without adult supervision. A participant may use a mount other than the regular mount only with the advance permission of the DC/CA and RS.

Per USPC Policy suitable mounts are defined as follows:

1. Stallions are not considered suitable mounts.
2. Mounts must be serviceably sound, in good overall health and in condition for the activity in question.
3. Mounts must be appropriate for the certification level of the rider and must be at a level of training to participate safely in the activity.
4. Except as noted below, mounts must be at least five (5) years of age in order to participate in USPC competitive, instructional, and recreational programs and activities. In establishing the age of mounts, the first year is considered to be January 1 following the date of foaling.
5. Members holding a riding certification of C-1 and above may participate in all USPC activities on an appropriate mount at least four (4) years of age (See above). A mount must be excused from any activity if in the opinion of the instructor, examiner, or appropriate authority, it is unsafe either to its rider or to other riders or mounts.

Ownership of a mount is not a prerequisite for membership in USPC. The responsibility for obtaining a suitable mount for mounted activities rests with the parents or guardians of the individual member.

Article 10—Substitution of Mounts

For all mounted rallies (except Tetrathlon) mount and rider become eligible for Championships as a team. Therefore, a competitor must enter Championships only on the mount they earned eligibility on. In extraordinary circumstances, after becoming eligible for Championships, a substitute mount may be requested utilizing the appropriate form, by the regional supervisor and must be approved by the applicable discipline chair and the Vice President of Activities.

Any substituted entry must meet the same mount and eligibility requirements as the original entry.

No mount substitution may be made once a competition has commenced. Refer to 'Mount Substitution Form'

Article 11—Sharing of Mounts

In some disciplines and in some competitions, the sharing of mounts may be allowed. At regional rallies, the rally organizer in consultation with the RS may allow for the sharing of mounts by competitors. For Championships, requests for shared mounts must be submitted to the appropriate discipline chair, and VPA utilizing the Mount Substitution Form. Each request will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, for approval or denial. Determination of shared mounts must take into consideration the discipline, competition schedule, and suitability of mount. Obviously, the welfare of the mount should be the highest priority in this situation and all competitors must agree that if the horse management, judges, technical delegate/steward, organizers or HM onsite feel that the health of the mount is in jeopardy at any time that they may be removed from the rest of the riding portion of the competition.

Article 12—Equine Drugs & Medication (Policy 0910.C)

Per USPC Policy 0910.C. DCs/CAs, RSs, rally organizers, officials and judges must be familiar with and enforce this policy. Parents and competitors must also be familiar with and abide by this policy. Failure to observe this policy will result in disqualification.

1. All mounts in a USPC sponsored activity shall be serviceably sound and healthy. Mounts should be free of medication other than dressings for minor wounds or scrapes, unless under treatment by a veterinarian. Medications and supplements may not be used to provide an unfair advantage over other competitors or to allow an unfit mount to be used.
2. Medication is defined as any substance that is not water, salt, electrolytes, or a supplement and is not considered a

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other competitors, their mounts, spectators, or others will be penalized accordingly.

- Any act or series of actions that in the opinion of the judge, TD, steward, member of the discipline ground jury can be defined as dangerous riding shall be penalized at the discretion of the discipline ground jury.
- If such actions are reported, the discipline ground jury shall decide if there is a case to be answered. If an individual member of the discipline ground jury observes such actions, they may eliminate or penalize the competitor forthwith on their own authority. There is no appeal against a discipline ground jury decision.

Article 15—Safety

USPC is committed to safety while recognizing that equestrian activities are inherently dangerous. **The USPC Safety Handbook is an excellent resource for more making safety a priority at all rallies and Pony Club functions.** This dedication to safety extends to requiring certain equipment be utilized during Pony Club activities and include:

1. Protective Headgear (Policy 0800.A): USPC requires members participating in mounted and some unmounted activities to wear a properly fitted equestrian helmet, securely fastened, containing certification that it meets the criteria established by the following international or national safety bodies: ASTM F1163 (North America), AS/NZ 3838 (Australia and NZ), PAS 015 (UK).
2. Safety Vest/Body Protector (Policy 0800.C): USPC requires members to wear a properly fitted equestrian body protector when jumping cross-country or solid obstacles during any activity sponsored by the USPC, its regions, registered clubs or riding center programs. USPC recommends wearing a body protector that is ASTM-certified (manufactured in US) or certified to the BETA Level 3 (manufactured in Great Britain).
3. Medical Armbands and Bracelets (Policy 0800.B):
 - USPC requires that members participating in any USPC affiliated mounted or unmounted activity, must wear either a Medical Armband or Medical Bracelet while participating in the activity. The member may choose which one to wear.
 - Medical armbands must include a current completed copy of the individual's USPC or USEA Medical Card. It must be worn on the upper arm. If the member has small arms, he/she may safety pin the armband to his/her upper sleeve. (Armbands are available for purchase from Shop Pony Club.)
 - Medical bracelets must visibly list these six items on them: name and date of birth, contact information, known allergies, current medications, and existing medical conditions. More information is acceptable, but these six items are required to be on the bracelet

- All officials on site at the USPC mounted or unmounted activity are encouraged to work with the competitors to remind them of this requirement.
- Any member at a USPC affiliated mounted or unmounted activity* found not wearing either a medical armband or medical bracelet must be removed from the activity until the member conforms to the policy requirements.
- * Tetrathlon competitors will not be required to wear them while actually shooting or swimming but must have them visible and next to them for these activities and must wear them at all other times.

4. Unmounted Footwear: When working in the barn or near mounts unmounted footwear must meet all the following criteria:

- Thick-soled , shoes/boots (short or tall)
- Cover the ankle
- In good condition
- Made of leather or synthetic materials
- Entirely closed
- Securely fastened
- Well-fitted to foot
- Sturdy construction (e.g., Ugg-type boots do not meet this requirement)

Examples: paddock/jodphur boots, rubber riding boots, rain boots/wellies, western boots.

Article 16—Heat Related Information

Heat Illness (Policy 0900): USPC requires all Pony Club volunteers in a leadership position within Pony Club and especially anyone involved directly with mounted or unmounted lessons or activities to complete the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) heat illness training module.

At all USPC activities, rally officials must consider the:

- Temperature and humidity using the "Heat Index Chart" (Appendix II).
- Time of day and season of activity.
- Level of exertion necessary for participation in the activity.

The Heat Index (HI) or "Apparent Temperature" is the temperature the body feels when heat and humidity are combined. This reduces the amount of evaporation of sweat from the body and outdoor exercise becomes dangerous even for those in good shape. Please refer to Appendix II.

Steps to prevent heat related illness include:

- Providing unlimited cool water for consumption in ALL areas, especially riding areas.
- Make water breaks mandatory.
- Do not depend on thirst as an indicator of the need for water.

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- Avoid the hottest part of the day if this is an option.
- Consider shortening the length/level or exertion of the activity.

During rallies, the discipline ground jury (overall ground jury at Championships) is responsible for monitoring the Heat Index and taking appropriate action as necessary. Those actions could include, but are not limited to:

- Waiving of coats/jackets
- Banning of coats/jackets
- Altering of schedule

Any official can and should bring a potentially dangerous heat situation to the attention of the president of the ground jury. If coats/jackets are waived or banned the following processes should be followed.

Waived Coats/Jackets

When the temperature and humidity are recorded in the danger zone, removal of coats during warm up is MANDATORY.

If the rider wants to put their coat/jacket on for their competition round, then they may leave their neckwear and helmet cover on during warm up.

If the rider does not want to put their coat/jacket on for their competition round, then they must remove all neckwear and their helmet cover during warm up.

Additional Information

- When coats are waived, the competitors must be turned out per Competition Attire (including coats/jackets) unless they choose to compete wearing Basic Riding Attire.
- Riders must wear a collared shirt with long or short sleeves if they are not wearing a jacket.
- T-Shirts are not permitted.

Competitors must also remove neckwear and helmet covers on vented helmets if they do not wish to wear their jackets for their competitive ride.

Banned Coats/Jackets

When temperature and humidity are recorded in the danger zone and based on the decision of the discipline ground jury (overall ground jury at Championships) coats/jackets may be banned for the safety of competitors. If coats/jackets are banned then competitors must remove coats/jackets, neckwear and helmet covers for turnout inspections, warm up and for competition rounds.

Heat Illness Return To Play

A member believed by a leader, coach, parent or official of a USPC unmounted or mounted activity or competition to be suffering from heat illness shall be removed from play at that time and given appropriate treatment before being allowed to return to play.

Article 17—Concussion and Return to Play

Concussion (Policy 0900): USPC requires all Pony Club volunteers in a leadership position within Pony Club and especially anyone involved directly with mounted or unmounted lessons or activities to complete the concussion training module.

A member believed by a leader, coach, parent or official to have sustained a concussion during a USPC unmounted or mounted activity must be referred to medical personnel. Medical personnel in conjunction with rally officials and organizers will determine if a written release is required for the member to return to the competition.

Article 18—Unauthorized Assistance and Permitted Assistance in all Phases

1. Unauthorized Assistance: Unauthorized assistance is help and/or assistance during the competition from anyone other than other competitors, HMJs, and rally officials. Unauthorized assistance can occur in person or through the use of electronic communication, unless allowed by the specific discipline rulebook (e.g., coaches in certain situations)
2. If, in the opinion of the president of the ground jury, unauthorized assistance has been received by a competitor, that competitor may be eliminated from that phase of the rally, or in extreme cases, disqualified from the entire competition. If there is any question, the discipline ground jury makes the final decision. There is no appeal.
3. Permitted Assistance:
 - Adults may aid in the unloading of mounts and carrying of heavy gear into the stable area upon arrival, after which non-competitors must immediately leave the area.
 - After a fall of a competitor or competitor dismounts, they may be assisted to catch their mount*, to adjust their saddlery, to remount, or to be handed any part of their saddlery or equipment, including whip, while they are dismounted or after they have remounted. Helmets must be replaced, and retention harnesses refastened before riders may remount.
 - * Exception for loose mounts in Games only: In Games, a loose mount may be caught by any competitor or Official already in the arena when the loose mount is behind Lines A and C. However, only the mount's rider may enter the playing area to catch it.
 - A competitor may receive clarification of jumping penalties from an obstacle judge, e.g., after jumping a flag at a corner, the judge may clarify whether it was a run-out or not.
 - If bodily harm to mount and/or rider is imminent, assistance from anyone (Official or otherwise), without concern for penalties, is expected. Time permitting, the

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situation should be brought to the attention of an Official. If immediate intervention is necessary, then an Official will be notified as soon as possible concerning the situation.

- If a mount is ill or injured, the owner/agent of the mount will be called in to discuss care.

Article 19—Excused

1. Jumping disciplines may call this a “Technical Elimination”
2. To grant permission to, or request that a competitor leave the phase/round/game due to circumstances outside of the competitor’s control (e.g., illness of rider, illness or lameness of mount)
3. Decided by
 - Inspection panel at horse inspection
 - Judge
 - Discipline ground jury
4. May not ride; therefore, will not receive any riding score during the Excuse, but
 - May request a lameness recheck
 - Rider may request to compete in following phases/rounds/games after if illness passes.
 - Both the mount and rider shall stay on rally grounds (unless the mount is transported for medical reasons) and continue to participate with the team and continue to be scored in horse management.
 - If ill, mount will be moved to another area, if possible.

Article 20—Elimination

- Elimination means to exclude a competitor or mount, for cause, from judging consideration in a class/phase. Competitor not scored in a class due to a mistake (e.g., use of illegal equipment, violation of the rules of phase/rounds/games.)
- After elimination, the discipline ground jury in consultation with the organizer, may allow participation in subsequent phases/rounds/games.
- Determined by judge or discipline ground jury.
- Refer to scoring of penalties for additional discipline specific reasons for elimination.

Article 21—Disqualification

1. Disqualification means that a competitor and his/her mount(s) may not take further part in the competition including in horse management.
2. It is applied at the discretion of the discipline ground jury.
3. Disqualification is a punishment for misconduct arising from a deliberate attempt to contravene the rules and regulations of USPC.

4. Includes but not limited to:

- Cruelty (Article 13);
 - abusive or unsportsmanlike conduct;
 - **obscene or inappropriate language;**
 - the use of drugs (other than those prescribed by a physician), alcohol, or tobacco (Article 8);
 - rude and disruptive behavior;
 - cheating;
 - rough or dangerous riding;
 - knowingly riding a lame, sick, or exhausted mount;
 - misuse of equine medications (USPC Policy 0910.C);
5. If such actions are reported, the discipline ground jury shall decide if there is a case to be answered. If an individual member of the discipline ground jury observes such actions, they may eliminate or penalize the competitor forthwith on their own authority. There is no appeal against a discipline ground jury decision
 6. Refer to scoring of penalties for additional discipline specific reasons for disqualification.

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and may be asked to fill volunteer roles in any phase of the competition. Chaperones shall not bring work from home or unattended younger children with them. Team chaperones may coordinate with the other parents of the team for lunch or drink arrangements.

2. Emergency Contacts:

Any team or competitor above the age of majority must submit a completed Emergency Contact Form with their entry. See Appendix III.

Article 28—Coaches and Coaching

Eventing coaches are allowed, but not mandatory for all rallies. There may be one or more coaches (may not also serve as chaperone). The presence of a coach at Eventing rally is to promote safety, good sportsmanship and good horsemanship in the warm-up area and the competition ring. Coaches are expected to help any Pony Club competitor who asks for assistance or whose coach is not present in the warm up area.

Competitors in a rally may also coach other competitors, providing they meet the following criteria:

- Must be 18 years of age as of January 1st of the competition year.
- No scheduling changes will be made to accommodate the coaches/competitors ride times.
- Competitor's responsibilities and mount's care always takes precedence over coaching duties.

Eventing Coaches:

- Must read, understand, sign and return a Coaches Form with the team entry (Appendix V).
- Must know the USPC Eventing rules, especially regarding unauthorized assistance; see Article 18, 43.13, 46.7, 52.3D, 60.C. Access to the team is limited and they may not enter the stable area except during authorized visiting times.
- At Championship competitions, coaches must attend the opening competitor briefing, and the coaches briefing.

Chapter 2—Competition Levels and Divisions

Article 29—Competition Levels

At regional rallies a rider may ride at any level offered, in which they feel their mount would be able to perform. Below are the most commonly offered levels at Eventing rally:

- Greenie
- Starter
- Beginner Novice
- Novice
- Training
- Preliminary

Article 30—Competition Divisions

Competition divisions differ from competition levels in that competitors may be separated into divisions based on age and/or other parameters. A competitor's age is determined by their age as of January 1 on the year of competition. See Article 5 for more details on age minimums.

Junior Divisions—Up to 17 years of age

Senior Divisions—18 years of age and above

Note: Rally divisions can be combined based on entry numbers and approval of the organizer and regional supervisor. Junior competitors can always compete up a division as a Senior to fill out a team. Senior competitors can never compete down in a Junior division. Before combining Junior and Senior aged competitors on the same team, rally organizers must get the approval of the Junior competitor and their parent/legal guardian (Appendix IV).

Article 31—Championships Divisions—Minimum Age and Certifications

Competitors seeking Championships eligibility must meet the age parameters and minimum certifications for the offered Championships divisions. There are no age and no certification exceptions to the below requirements. See Article 5 for more details on age and certification minimums.

Modified Junior Beginner Novice	D-2 EV/HSE	10-17
Junior Beginner Novice	C-1 EV/HSE	12-17
Modified Senior Beginner Novice	D-2 EV/HSE	18+
Senior Beginner Novice	C-1 EV/HSE	18+
Modified Junior Novice	D-2 EV/HSE	10-17
Junior Novice	C-1 EV/HSE	12-17
Modified Senior Novice	D-2 EV/HSE	18+
Senior Novice	C-1 EV/HSE	18+
Modified Junior Training	D-2 EV/HSE	10-17
Junior Training	C-1 EV/HSE	12-17
Modified Senior Training	D-2 EV/HSE	18+
Senior Training	C-1 EV/HSE	18+
Junior Preliminary	C-1 EV/HSE	14-17
Senior Preliminary	C-1 EV/HSE	18+

Stable Managers must meet the minimum age criteria of their division and be a D-2 HM for modified divisions and a D-3 HM for all other divisions.

Note: Championship divisions may be combined based on entry numbers and approval from Vice President of Activities and the overall organizer.

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Article 32—Championships Eligibility Process

Each individual Pony Club member who desires to compete at Championships must compete in a regional rally and be judged at the minimum HM level and same competition level in which they intend to compete at Championships. This constitutes the “individual eligibility” of the competitor.

Members wanting to become eligible for Championships must meet the below division criteria.

Modified Beginner Novice and Novice levels

A rider must compete in two horse trials (HT) at or above the competition level. This can be completed with either of the below scenarios.

1. Compete in a standard or modified USPC Eventing rally and one USEA Recognized HT.

OR

2. Compete in two USEA Recognized HTs, provide a horse management score from a standard or modified mounted rally and watch the vet box video.

Beginner Novice and Novice levels

A rider must have completed (without elimination in any phase) two horse trials (HT).

One of the competitions must be clear of any cross-country jumping penalties and the other may have no more than 20 cross-country jumping penalties in the twelve months preceding Championships. This can be completed with either of the below scenarios.

1. Complete a standard USPC Eventing rally and one USEA Recognized HT.

OR

2. Complete two USEA Recognized HTs, provide a horse management score from a mounted rally and evidence of vet box experience.

Modified Training level

A rider must compete in three horse trials (HT) at or above the competition level. This can be completed with either of the below scenarios, in the eighteen months preceding Championships.

1. Compete in a standard or modified USPC Eventing rally and two USEA Recognized HTs.

OR

2. Compete in three USEA Recognized HTs, provide a horse management score from a standard or modified mounted rally and watch the vet box video.

Training and Preliminary Levels

A rider must have completed (without elimination in any phase) three HTs.

Two of the competitions must be clear of any cross-country jumping penalties and the other may have no more than 20 cross-country jumping penalties in the eighteen months preceding Championships. This can be completed with any of the below scenarios.

1. Complete a standard USPC Eventing rally and two USEA Recognized HTs.

OR

2. Complete three USEA Recognized HTs, provide a horse management score from a mounted rally and evidence of vet box experience.

Article 33—Eligibility Requirements for C-3/B/A Certified Members

Certified C-3/B/A members may become eligible for Beginner Novice and Novice Championships by completing two USEA Recognized HTs in the twelve months preceding Championships. At least one of these competitions must have no cross-country jumping penalties, with the other having no more than 20 cross-country jumping penalties.

Certified B/A members may become eligible for Training and Preliminary Championships by completing three USEA Recognized HTs in the twelve months preceding Championships. At least two of these competitions must have no cross-country jumping penalties, with the other having no more than 20 cross-country jumping penalties.

Article 34—Exceptions to Qualification Requirements for Championships

Exceptions to the eligibility process are occasionally granted. There are no exceptions to minimum age and certification requirements. The process for requesting an exception is outlined on the Championships Competition Information page of the USPC website. All requests for exceptions must come from the RS to the appropriate discipline chair [using the online application found on the Championships Information Page of the USPC website.](#)

An exception may be requested by the RS to use a “comparable” unrecognized HT to meet one of the HT requirements. The definition of a “comparable” unrecognized is a HT held at the site of sanctioned HT, where the construction and dimensions of the cross-country fences have been approved by a USEF-licensed Eventing technical delegate or eventing judge. The event must be officiated by a licensed judge or TD. The Dressage tests must be judged by a licensed USDF Dressage judge (L, r, R, or S); the Cross-Country jumping phase must be timed and a jump judge needs oversee each jumping fence; and the show jumping phase must be timed.

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Approval of the use of a comparable event must be requested each year.

Chapter 3—Presentation of Competitor and Mount

Article 35—Competitor Identification

Identification numbers (pinnies, bridle numbers, etc.) must be worn in a prominent manner on competitors/mounts, as designated by rally officials. Pinnies must be worn at all times in the barn area. Competitor nametags must be worn at all times, except when mounted.

Article 36—Competitor Attire

Each participant is responsible for organizing his/her own attire and equipment which must meet all safety requirements outlined in Article 15. Competitors should be neat and clean with inappropriate jewelry not permitted; see Horse Management Handbook for specifications. Participants must wear a medical armband or **bracelet as specified** in Article 15.3. A Pony Club pin must be worn at all times unless otherwise stated by rally officials. Felt can be placed behind pins using the below designations:

Certification	Felt Color
A	Royal Blue
H-A	Orange
B	Red
H-HM/H	Purple
H-B	Brown
C-3	White
C+	Pink
C-1 and C-2	Green
D-1 through D-3	Yellow

Depending on the activity, different attire expectations exist, the different situations and attire expectations are listed below.

1. General Barn Attire—Long pants, mid-length or longer shorts or modest length skirts made of khaki, chino or denim materials of any color, with no rips or tears, a shirt with sleeves, and appropriate unmounted footwear (Article 15.4), are examples of appropriate attire for unmounted work in the barn.
2. Horse Inspection (Jog Outs)—Attire must be safe, appropriate, neat and clean. It must include a helmet (meeting USPC Helmet Policy, Article 15.1), and appropriate unmounted footwear (Article 15.4). Workmanlike and discipline appropriate attire including a tucked in collared shirt with pants/skirt/mid-length shorts/riding pants. If the pants/skirt has belt loops a belt is required. Blue jeans are not acceptable for english discipline horse inspection attire.

3. Turnout Inspection and first round of competition—All competitors must turnout and compete in appropriate competition attire. Any competitors not seeking Championships eligibility may turnout and compete in appropriate competition attire or in basic riding attire as detailed below. In inclement weather, competitors will be allowed to wear a helmet cover and a transparent or conservative colored raincoat.

4. Competition Attire for Eventing:

Turnout Inspection and Dressage Attire

Required

Helmet—Must be predominately black, brown, or dark blue and meeting USPC Helmet Policy (Article 15.1).

Hair—Hair should be neatly secured and away from the eyes.

Shirt—Shirt of any conservative color with a collar and sleeves, tucked into pants.

Neckwear—For Dressage, stock tie, choker, tie or integrated stand-up collar. Traditional stock ties require a stock pin, pretied stock ties may be worn with or without stock pin.

Coat/Jackets/Vest—**Short riding coat of a dark, solid conservative color or tweed.** A cutaway coat (modified tailcoat) with short tail is permitted. Competitors may compete without a jacket. In such cases, the shirt must be neatly tucked into the riding breeches.

Pants—Jodhpur or breeches. White or light color.

Belt—If pants have belt loops, belts are required.

Footwear—Conventional type of riding footwear with a heel that covers the ankles are required. Tall black or brown dress or field boots, or jodhpur/paddock boots with matching full grain smooth leather leg piece or leather-like material are allowed.

Permitted

Gloves—Dark colors, tan, beige, or white.

Safety/Protective Vests—Any color.

Spurs—Must be english style, no longer than 2 " including rowels. If curved must be pointed down.

Not Permitted

Tail coats, pastel and dark colored breeches, full chaps and/or suede half-chaps

Cross-Country Attire

Required

Helmet—Any color meeting USPC Helmet Policy (Article 15.1).

Shirt—Per appropriate basic attire riding description. Tucked in.

Protective Vests— Per Article 15.2, any color.

Pants—Jodhpurs or Breeches, any color.

Belt—If pants have belt loops, belts are required.

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Footwear—Tall black or brown dress or field boots, or jodhpur/paddock boots with matching full grain smooth leather leg piece (also called smooth leather half-chaps).

Permitted

Gloves—Any type, color

Spurs—Must be english style no longer than 2" including rowels. If curved must be pointed down.

Show Jumping Attire

Required

Helmet—Must be predominately black, brown, or dark blue and meeting USPC Helmet Policy (Article 15.1).

Shirt—Conservative color (white or light colored). Tucked in.

Neckwear—Stock and pin, choker, tie or integrated stand-up collar.

Coat/Jacket—A short riding coat of dark color (predominantly black, brown, dark blue, or tweed). Competitors may compete without a jacket. In such cases, the shirt (long or short sleeved with collar and without neckwear, of a conservative color) must be neatly tucked into riding breeches.

Pants—Jodhpurs or breeches, must be light in color or white.

Belt—If pants have belt loops, belts are required.

Footwear—Tall black or brown dress or field boots, or jodhpur/paddock boots with matching full grain smooth leather leg piece (also called smooth leather half-chaps).

Permitted

Gloves—Dark color, tan, beige or white.

Safety/Protective Vests—Any color.

Spurs—Must be English style no longer than 2" including rowels. If curved must be pointed down.

Not Permitted

Tail coats, pastel and dark colored breeches, full chaps and/or suede half-chaps

Spurs—Spurs capable of wounding a horse are forbidden. Spurs must be of smooth metal. If there is a shank it must not be longer than 4 cm (1-9/16 inches, measured from the boot to the end of the spur) and must point only towards the rear. Rowels are not permitted except as stated below. If the shank is curved, the spurs must be worn only with the shank directed downwards. "Dummy spurs" with no shank and swan neck spurs are allowed. Roweled spurs are permitted for the Dressage test and when practicing/warming-up for the Dressage test. If rowels are used, they must be free to rotate and the rowel must be round and smooth (no tines allowed).

5. Basic Riding Attire for Eventing:

Unrated and D-1

Required

Helmet—Any color meeting USPC Helmet Policy (Article 15.1).

Hair—Hair should be neatly secured and away from the eyes.

Shirt—Collared shirt with sleeves and tucked in.

Pants—Long pants.

Footwear—Conventional type of riding footwear, short or tall, with a heel that covers the ankles are required.

Permitted

Belt—Any type/color.

Gloves—Any type/color.

Half-chaps—Any type/color.

D-2 and up

Rider must be in safe, neat, and clean attire.

Required

Helmet—Any color meeting USPC Helmet Policy (Article 15.1).

Hair—Hair should be neatly secured and away from the eyes.

Shirt—Collared shirt with sleeves and tucked in.

Pants—Breeches, jodhpurs (with garters and/or pant clips) or riding pants.

Belt—If pants have belt loops, belts are required.

Footwear—Conventional type of riding footwear, short or tall, with a heel that covers the ankles are required.

Permitted

Gloves—Any type/color.

Half-chaps—Any type/color.

Article 37—Bits, Saddlery and Equipment

The following information is the most basic description of allowable bits, saddles and equipment for Eventing. Final determination of permitted and prohibited bits, saddlery and equipment may require referencing the USEF Eventing Rulebook and Annex 1 which are both available on the USEF website for the most up to date information.

All competitors seeking eligibility must turnout and compete per the specific bits, saddlery and equipment rules outlined in this rulebook and the USEF Eventing Rulebook and Annex 1. Any competitors not pursuing Championships eligibility may request bits, saddlery and equipment allowances from the rally organizer and regional supervisor. (i.e., kimberwicke bits, grazing reins, standing martingale, etc.)

The following restrictions begin upon arrival on the competition grounds and continue throughout the duration of the rally. The following are compulsory: an English type saddle and a permitted bridle.

SECTION II: General Regulations

1. Exercise Arenas

- A. Running martingales with rein stops, boots, bandages, fly shields, and nose covers are permitted. Side reins are permitted only while longeing an unmounted horse. Other martingales, any form of gadget (such as a bearing, running or balancing reins, etc.) and any form of blinkers, are forbidden, under penalty of disqualification.
- B. One whip no longer than 120cm (47.2 in.) including lash may be carried when riding on the flat at any time. A standard longe whip may be used when longeing a horse. An adjustable-length whip may not be carried by a mounted rider.

2. Dressage Test

A. Bits and Nosebands

A rounded snaffle bit made of metal, leather, rubber or plastic material is permitted for all tests, **and may be covered with rubber/latex. The reins must be attached to the bit.** It may have a cavesson noseband, dropped noseband, crossed noseband, or flash noseband. The noseband must be made entirely of leather or leather like material, except for a small disk of sheepskin, which may be used in the intersection of the two leather straps of a crossed noseband. **All bits must be properly fitted and consistent with its intended use.**

B. Saddlery

An english type saddle is required.

C. Extra Equipment

- 1) One whip no longer than 110cm (43.3 in.) may be carried during the Dressage test except in USEF/USEA/USPC Championships divisions. An adjustable-length whip may not be carried by a mounted rider.
- 2) A breast plate may be used.
- 3) **A neck strap or pommel strap may be used. The strap must be made primarily of leather.**
- 4) Ear hoods are permitted for all tests and may also provide noise reduction. However, ear hoods must not cover the horse's eyes and ear plugs are not permitted. The ear hoods should be discreet in color and design.
- 5) Nose nets are permitted under the following conditions:
 - a. The entry must be accompanied by a letter signed by the horse's veterinarian on letterhead, stating that the horse has been diagnosed with head shaking syndrome and that the horse's condition is improved with the use of a nose net.
 - b. The nose net must be made of a transparent material and cover only the top half of the muzzle, not the bit or the horse's mouth.

- 6) Martingales, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins, etc.), reins with any loops or hand attachments, any kind of boots or leg bandages and any form of blinkers, including earmuffs, earplugs, hoods, and seat covers are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden.

3. Cross-Country test and Jumping test

A. Bits

An english type bridle (including Gags) or a hackamore.

B. Saddlery

English type saddle.

C. Extra Equipment

- 1) One whip no longer than 75cm (30") may be carried in the Cross-Country and/or Jumping test, or while jumping any obstacle before these tests. It must not be weighted at the end. An adjustable-length whip may not be carried by a mounted rider.
- 2) Only unrestricted running martingales with rein stops or irish martingales are allowed.
- 3) Reins must be free of any loops or hand attachments and must be attached to the bit(s) or directly to the bridle. Exception: u-shaped bit converters may be used so that a bit designed for use with two reins may be controlled with a single rein.
- 4) In the interest of safety, the stirrup iron and stirrup leathers must hang free from the bar of the saddle and outside the flap. There must be no other restrictions or attachments of any kind.
- 5) Any form of blinkers are forbidden.

NOTE: Final determination of permitted and prohibited bits, saddlery and equipment may require referencing the USEF Eventing Rulebook and Annex 1 which are both available on the USEF website for the most up to date information.

Article 38—Competitor and Horse Inspections

Horses must be well groomed. Braiding is optional, as long as it does not interfere with the competitor's responsibilities to his/her mount. Braids must be removed prior to Turnback. Horses need not be shod, but their feet are expected to be in good condition and not in need of any attention upon arrival at the rally. The discipline ground jury may exclude unsafe, inappropriate, lame, otherwise unsound or exhausted horses from the competition at any time during the rally.

Examinations of Horse and Rider Required at Eventing Rally:

1. Horse Inspections (Jog Outs):

Horse inspections are required at standard rallies and Championships and recommended for all rallies. Before the beginning of competition, the horses must be examined in hand, for soundness, by an Inspection Panel. All horses shall be serviceably sound. Should the soundness of a horse be questioned, the matter shall be reported

SECTION III: Competition

F. In cases where there is limited space for schooling/warm-up. The number of mounted allowed to warm-up at one time may be restricted by rally organizers.

3. Stewards: One or more warm-up stewards, who are not horse management judges, must be present in the warm up areas when they are open as declared by the organizer, to ensure that the rules regarding exercising and warming up are obeyed. If tack needs major adjustment after the safety check, the competitor must return to a horse management judge for assistance.

Article 42—Access to Courses and Arenas

1. Cross-Country course

- A. Before the course has been opened to competitors, it is forbidden, under penalty of disqualification, to inspect the obstacles or the course without the permission of the organizers, at the discretion of the discipline ground jury.
- B. The cross-country course will be open for inspection to all competitors, no later than 3:00 PM the day before the competition starts at a USEF event. All obstacles, flags and markers that have to be observed by competitors shall be exactly in position when the course is shown to the competitors. In the case of multiple courses running on the same track, a sign will be posted at obstacle(s) to be changed, indicating such change(s). This shall include changes to flags as well as to obstacles. Thereafter, they may not be moved or altered by competitors, under penalty of disqualification.
- C. After the course has been officially opened to the competitors, they are allowed to revisit the course and examine the obstacles during the hours of daylight.

2. Jumping course

The course for the jumping test will be opened to competitors not less than 30 minutes before the start of the jumping test, and at convenient intermissions during the jumping test. Competitors on foot will be admitted to the arena by permission of the discipline ground jury. An announcement must also be made over the public address system. Unless permission has been given by the discipline ground jury, it is forbidden, under penalty of disqualification, for competitors to enter the arena on foot once the test has started.

Chapter 2—Dressage Test

Article 43—Rules Governing the Dressage Test

1. All tests must be carried out from memory, and all movements must follow in the order laid down in the test.
2. After the signal has been given, the competitor must enter the arena at A within 45 seconds.
3. A test begins with the entry at A and ends after the salute at the end of the test, as soon as the horse moves forward. Any incidents before the beginning or after the end of the test have no effect on the marks. The competitor should leave the arena in the way prescribed in the text of the test.
4. Competitors must take the reins in one hand at the salute.
5. When a movement must be carried out at a certain point of the arena, it should be done at the moment when the competitor's body is above this point.
6. The use of the voice in any way whatsoever or clicking the tongue once or repeatedly is a serious fault involving the deduction of at least two marks from those that would otherwise have been awarded for the movement where this occurred.
7. In case of marked lameness, the judge at C will inform the competitor that they are eliminated. There is no appeal against this decision.
8. A horse leaving the arena completely, with all four feet, between the time of entry and the final salute, will be eliminated.
9. Any resistance that prevents the continuation of the test longer than 20 seconds will be penalized by elimination.
10. When a competitor makes an "error of course" (takes the wrong turn, omits a movement, etc.) the judge at C warns them by sounding the signal. The judge shows them, if necessary, the point at which they must take up the test again and the next movement to be executed, then leaves them to continue by themselves. However, in some cases when, although the competitor makes an "error of course," the sounding of the signal would unnecessarily impede the fluency of the performance (for instance if a competitor makes a transition at V instead of K), it is up to the judge at C to decide whether to sound the bell or not. However, if the signal is not sounded at an error of test in which the movement is repeated and the error occurs again, only one error is recorded.
11. When a competitor makes an "error of the test" (trots rising instead of sitting, does not take the reins in one hand at the salute, etc.), they must be penalized as for an "error of course."
12. In principle, a competitor is not allowed to repeat a movement of the test unless the judge at C decides on an error of course and sounds the signal. If the competitor has started the execution of a movement and tries to do

SECTION III: Competition

another obstacle, the bell must be rung and the clock stopped while this part is picked up and the way is cleared.

- E. If a competitor jumps an obstacle correctly which has been improperly rebuilt, there incurs no penalty; but if they knock down the obstacle they will be penalized.
3. Vertical and Spread Obstacles
- A. When a vertical obstacle or part of an obstacle comprises two or several parts placed one above the other and positioned in the same vertical plane, only the fall of the top part is penalized.
 - B. When a spread obstacle which requires only one effort comprises parts which are not positioned in the same vertical plane, the fall of one or several top parts only counts as one fault whatever the number and position of the parts which have fallen. Trees, hedges etc. used as filling are not liable for penalties.
4. Faults made between the starting line and the finishing line must be taken into consideration.
5. Disobediences committed during the time when the round is interrupted are not penalized.
6. Disobediences, falls etc., occurring between the signal to start and the moment the competitor crosses the starting line in the correct direction, are not penalized.
7. Penalties for the disobediences accumulate, not just at the same obstacle, but throughout the entire round

8. Calculating the Jumping Test Penalties

- A. Total any jumping penalties, and time penalties competitors jumping test and add to the existing penalty score.

Faults are penalized in penalty points or by elimination as set out in this section

- Obstacle knocked down while jumping . . .4 penalties
- First disobedience4 penalties
- Second disobedience or other under rule at PreliminaryElimination
- Second disobedience or other under rule at Beginner Novice, Novice and Training8 penalties
- Third disobedience or other under rule at Beginner Novice, Novice and TrainingElimination
- Fall of horse or competitor or bothElimination
- Exceeding the time limitElimination
- Exceeding the time allowed0.4 penalty for each second or commenced fraction of a second

Penalties for the disobediences accumulate, not just at the same obstacle, but throughout the entire round.

SECTION IV: Scoring

Frivolous Protest

- During a rally, each team is allowed one “free” inquiry to the TD/steward. After the first, the TD/steward may present to the ground jury any inquiry presented in which the decision of the judge was upheld and which the TD/steward deems frivolous and not in the spirit of good sportsmanship. Any inquiry deemed frivolous, may be assessed 5 points by the discipline ground jury.
- If any score change results, the chief scorekeeper must be notified by the official making the decision and changes recorded scores.

The discipline ground jury will meet, review the written inquiry/protest form, make a decision, document the decision on the original written inquiry/protest form, and report its decision.

THE DECISION OF THE DISCIPLINE GROUND JURY IS FINAL AT REGIONAL RALLIES.

Written Appeal to the Overall Ground Jury/ Appeal Committee

(AT CHAMPIONSHIPS ONLY)

If a team does not agree with the discipline ground jury’s decision on a written protest, they may advance an appeal (utilizing the existing written inquiry form) to the overall ground jury/appeal committee.

The team’s decision to appeal must be made while the team is sequestered and within 10 minutes after the announcement of the discipline ground jury’s decision to the team.

Appeals must be initiated by:

- The team captain, if competitor is on a team. The competitor involved may go with the team captain.
- The competitor involved (if competing as an individual).

THE DECISION OF THE OVERALL GROUND JURY/APPEAL COMMITTEE IS FINAL AT CHAMPIONSHIPS.

Article 59—Scoring of Excused

Excused competitors/mounts will receive same score as an elimination score for any phase from which they are excused. Competitors/mounts may rejoin the competition soon as they are able.

Article 60—Scoring of Elimination

1. Competitors eliminated or retired during any phase of the rally will receive penalties as if eliminated for that phase in accordance with the table below. Scores for prior phases will stand.
 - A. If allowed to continue, subsequent scores will count.
 - B. If not allowed to continue in subsequent riding phases, riders will be scored as if eliminated in each of those phases.

- C. For the phase in which the rider was eliminated or is scored as if eliminated, penalty points will be added to the worst score of a competitor in the same division in that phases follows:

Dressage	20 penalty points
Cross-Country	50 penalty points
Jumping	15 penalty points

2. Withdrawn competitors’ scores for phases prior to their withdrawal stand. They will be scored as if eliminated in all subsequent phases.
3. See appropriate chapters in Section III for possible reasons for elimination. Elimination is left to the discretion of the discipline ground jury in the following cases:
 - A. Not entering the arena when the competitor’s name and/or number is called.
 - B. Not entering the arena mounted or not leaving the arena mounted.
 - C. All unauthorized assistance, except for paragraph above.
 - D. Not stopping when the bell is rung during the round.

Article 61—Scoring of Disqualification

Competitors (or teams) who are disqualified from competition shall have all their scores from the competition stricken. If the disqualification of a competitor causes an already short team, to become a shortened team, then shortened team ghost scoring will apply. If a stable manager is disqualified, all the team’s HM points accumulated will be split evenly among the remaining team members. Disqualified competitors and their horses may not take further part in the rally, and may be asked to leave the grounds. A disqualified competitor/team may not receive an award.

The discipline ground jury may disqualify a competitor and/or a team from competition, for the reasons stated in Article 21. Decisions of the discipline ground jury are final.

Article 62—Team Scoring

1. Based on the number of mounted competitors, teams may or may not have a drop score. Four rider teams will drop the worst (highest) penalty score for each phase of the mounted competition. Three rider teams will keep all three scores from each phase. If horse management ghost scores are needed, those will be calculated per the current Horse Management Handbook.

The final score is calculated using the below formula.

Horse Management Score = # HM penalties x 4

Final Score = Dressage penalties + Cross-Country penalties + Jumping penalties + HM Final Score

2. In extraordinary circumstances when a short team (three rider team) becomes a shortened team (two rider and one

SECTION IV: Scoring

stable manager), prior to the start of competition, the following team scoring will take effect.

- A. In the event of the competitor being removed completely from the team. Ghost Horse Management scores will be determined per the Horse Management Handbook. Ghost riding scores will be determined by averaging the riding scores of the two remaining competitors.
- B. In the event of the competitor no longer being able to participate in the riding portion of the competition. They shall continue to earn Horse Management scores, and ghost riding scores will be determined by averaging the riding scores of the two remaining competitors.

Please note: The above scoring is not to be used in a 4 man team's loss of a rider or mount. Only to be used with a 3 man team rather than losing a team completely from the rally.

Article 63—Individual Scoring

While rallies are normally scored only as teams, there are some instances when the tabulation of Individual Scores is necessary. To determine an individual's score:

1. The penalties accumulated in each of the three phases will be added together.
2. The total penalty score, plus all horse management penalties (after factoring), will be added.
3. The winning individual is that individual who has the lowest total score after all scores have been added. In the event of a tie, the tie will be broken by:
 - A. The best cross-country score including penalties for faults at obstacles, time penalties and any other penalty that he/she may have incurred on the cross-country test.
 - B. Closest to the optimum time on cross-country.
 - C. Best jumping score including penalties at obstacles and time penalties.
 - D. Best collective marks in the Dressage test.

Article 64—Posting of Scores

Depending on the length of the rally, scores may be posted multiple times during the rally or just once. Any time scores are posted there is a 30-minute inquiry period where competitors can inquiry regarding the scores (Article 58). After the final inquiry period, the only changes that can occur are if a transcription error has occurred. Following the final inquiry period, final scores for all competitors must be posted for review by competitors, parents, coaches, etc.

Anytime scores are posted during the competition, there will be an announcement of official score posting and time.

ELIMINATION/RETIREMENT/WITHDRAWAL/DISQUALIFICATION ON THE SCOREBOARD:

- Eliminated horse/riders are indicated by (E) on the scoreboard.
- Technical Elimination horse/riders are indicated by (TE) on the scoreboard.
- Retired horse/riders are indicated by (R);
- Mandatory Retirement by (MR).
- Withdrawn horse/riders are indicated by (W).
- Disqualified horse/riders are indicated by (D).
- Horses excluded from competition at the Jog-Out or Vet Check are indicated by (X).

Article 65—Placing of Teams

The winning team is that with the best (lowest) final score after all three riding scores and the horse management score are added together.

Ties:

Will be broken by the following order. The winning team will be that team whose third-placed competitor has:

1. The lowest number of final penalty points
2. The closest to optimum time on XC
3. The lowest Dressage score

Awards:

Overall team and horse management awards are usually presented at mounted rallies. Other awards may be also be given and all awards must be published in the prize list.

Please Note:

1. A disqualified horse/rider combination may not be placed or receive an award.
2. Teams reduced to two riding members may not be considered in the final placing, but scores may be continued for team members' information.
3. Combined Test Rallies:
 - A. Teams at all levels and individuals at Combined test rallies are classified as they are at Eventing rallies
 - B. There is no Combined test Championship.
 - C. Ties: Ties are broken as they are at Eventing rallies.

SECTION VI: Eventing Appendices

Appendix V USPC Eventing Rally Technical Delegate's Evaluation and Report

(This form is also available electronically on the USPC website.)

*=information required; circle yes or no when you see **(yes/no)**.

TD/Steward's Name * _____ Phone * _____

TD/Steward's Email Address * _____

TD/Steward's License number and affiliation _____

Organizer's Name * _____ Phone * _____

Organizer's Email Address * _____

CHMJ Name* _____ Phone * _____

CHMJ Email Address * _____ Number of AHMJ's* _____

Rally Information

Region * _____ Rally Start Date * _____ Rally End Date * _____

Rally locations (please include all if multiple) _____

Is this a standard rally? * _____

Did you have a CURRENT copy of the Discipline's Rulebook? * **(yes/no)**

Did you read the rulebook prior to attending the rally? * **(yes/no)**

Was the entire rally conducted according to these rules? * **(yes/no)**

Did Horse Management function according to the rules? * **(yes/no)**

Did you have any problem with a stated rule? * **(yes/no)** If yes, please tell us why. _____

Did you have a situation for which there was not a stated rule? * **(yes/no)** If yes, please describe the situation. _____

Did any competitors receive Yellow Cards given during the rally? **(yes/no)** If yes, how many and why? _____

Were any competitors disqualified during the rally? * **(yes/no)** If so, please tell us who and why _____

SECTION VI: Eventing Appendices

Was the rally well-organized? **(yes/no)** Please describe _____

Were the facilities suitable for all phases of the rally? **(yes/no)** If no, please describe areas of concern. _____

Were the organizers and other officials friendly and supportive to competitors and each other? * **(yes/no)**

Was sufficient personnel provided to manage all phases? * **(yes/no)**

Were medical personnel & equipment (EMT, ambulance) on the grounds during mounted activities and on call at all times? * **(yes/no)**

Were any accident reports filed * **(yes/no)**

For the duration of the rally, was safety placed as a priority? **(yes/no)** Please describe _____

Were the communications suitable for all phases of the rally? (yes/no) If no, please describe areas of concern. _____

Were briefings held? (yes/no) Please describe. _____

Was the rally a learning experience for all competitors? * **(yes/no)** Please describe _____

Do you feel you were given all the materials to do your job effectively? * **(yes/no)** If no, please describe why not. _____

Horse Management Review

As the Technical Delegate/Steward, you are charged with the first level of reviewing the decisions in Horse Management. Under the rules of competition, the initial protest from the decision of the Chief Horse Management Judge is to the Technical Delegate/Steward. A protest can only be made by the team or individual competitor against whom an adverse decision is made. Therefore if a protest comes to you to reconsider the decision of the Chief Horse Management Judge and you do NOT sustain the decision of the judge, the protest is concluded. If you do sustain the Chief Horse Management Judge, then a protest can be placed before the Discipline Ground Jury.

Were all inquiries/protests that were brought to you as TD/Steward in written form on the official form?* **(yes/no)**

Do you have any comments on the Horse Management competition at this rally? _____

Do you have any additional comments or thought you would like to share? _____

SECTION VI: Eventing Appendices

Rally Competitor Numbers

Please utilize the lines below to indicate what competition divisions were offered and the number of teams and competitors in each.

	Level/ Division*	Number of Teams*	Number of Competitors*	Number of Competitors with D-2 Certification above 10 years of age*	Number of Competitors with C-1 Certification above 12 years of age*
Junior Greenie	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Greenie	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Junior Starter	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Starter	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Junior Beginner Novice	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Beginner Novice	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Junior Training	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Training	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Junior Preliminary	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Senior Preliminary	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Other (please specify)	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

President of the Ground Jury's Name * _____ Phone * _____

President of the Ground Jury's Email Address * _____

President of the Ground Jury's License number and affiliation _____

Judge's Name * _____ Phone * _____

Judge's Email Address * _____

Judge's License number and affiliation _____

Judge's Name * _____ Phone * _____

Judge's Email Address * _____

Judge's License number and affiliation _____