

Pony Club®

Where it all begins



Eventing Rulebook

2021

THE USPC PLEDGE

*As a Member of the United States Pony Club,
I stand for the best in sportsmanship as well as in horsemanship.
I shall compete for the enjoyment of the game well played and
take winning or losing in stride, remembering that without good
manners and good temper, sport loses its cause for being.
I shall endeavor to maintain the best tradition of the ancient
and noble skill of horsemanship, always treating my horse
with consideration due a partner.*

USPC MISSION STATEMENT

The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. develops character, leadership, confidence, and a sense of community in youth through a program that teaches the care of horses and ponies, riding and mounted sports.

Introduction

Originally developed in the cavalries of Europe as a test of the ideal military charger, Eventing has now evolved into an exciting sport attracting interest from all levels of sports enthusiasts. Eventing is a three-phase equestrian sport designed to test the horse and rider's versatility, fitness, and stamina. Each phase (Dressage, Cross-Country, and Show Jumping) addresses certain elements of the all-around horse. Penalties are incurred in each phase and the horse/rider pair with the fewest penalties at the completion of the last phase are deemed the winners.

Competitions

Competitions start with the Dressage phase. The French term for "training", Dressage is essential to the event horse as it helps to develop the muscular strength, suppleness, obedience, and maneuverability needed in the other two phases. Horse and rider perform a prescribed pattern of movements and are scored on accuracy, obedience, suppleness, and execution. The Dressage phase is the starting point for the remainder of the competition as the score earned here can determine where you finish.

Cross-Country is the second phase of an eventing competition. The object of this phase is to prove the speed, endurance, and jumping ability of the horse over varied terrain and obstacles. Horses and riders must be in peak condition to run cross-country well and not incur any time or jumping penalties. The horse must be bold, smart, and obedient and

USPC CORE VALUES

Horsemanship with respect to healthcare, nutrition, stable management, handling and riding a mount safely, correctly and with confidence.

Organized teamwork including cooperation, communication, responsibility, leadership, mentoring, teaching and fostering a supportive yet competitive environment.

Respect for the horse and self through horsemanship; for land through land conservation; and for others through service and teamwork.

Service by providing an opportunity for members, parents, and others to support the Pony Club program locally, regionally and nationally through volunteerism.

Education at an individual pace to achieve personal goals and expand knowledge through teaching others.

the rider must have knowledge of pace and a good plan to navigate the course. Horses are asked to jump a variety of obstacles including logs, cabins, drops and banks, gallop through water, and over brush. The entire course is timed and riders who come in within the time allotted with no jump penalties move on with their original Dressage score.

The final phase of an eventing competition is the Show Jumping phase. While similar to a traditional show jumping course the purpose of Eventing show jumping is entirely different. This phase is designed to demonstrate that, after a test of endurance, the horse has retained suppleness, energy, and obedience to the rider. The objective is to leave all the obstacles up and finish the course in the allowed time. A double clear round here adds no penalties to the pair's Dressage score. The horse and rider combination with the lowest total score after Show Jumping is the winner.

Eventing in Pony Club

Eventing in Pony Club is very similar to eventing at USEA competitions with the exception of being part of a team. The ridden competition runs exactly like a regular event but with the Horse Management component is added in as well. Riders compete on teams of three or four riders and a stable manager. Members have the opportunity to qualify for USPC national Championships every year by completing their regional eventing rally and a USEA recognized Horse Trial at their chosen level. Pony Club also offers many awards for excellence in eventing.

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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 2021. 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.

These rules are based on copyrighted Rules of the U.S. Equestrian Federation and are printed with the permission of the USEF, which neither sponsors nor is responsible for their publication or implementation at any United States Pony Club event.

SECTION I: USPC Rally Uniform Officiation Rules (UOR)

Article 5—Member Participation and Eligibility

Participation in Rallies:

At local, regional, and inter-regional rallies, participants may be of any age or certification, must be a member in good standing, must have paid all local, regional, and national dues, insurance fees, and their membership be on record with the USPC National Office at the time of the rally. Members, parents, and anyone participating in USPC activities must all abide by the applicable Code of Conduct. Members seeking Championships eligibility must meet the criteria determined by the discipline committee and outlined later in this document. For rally purposes, the member's age as of January 1st shall be the age of record throughout the competition year.

Championships Competitor Age and Certification:

Each discipline/division has minimum age and certification requirements for participation in Championships. Championships competitors must meet the age requirement based on their age on January 1 of the Championships' competition year. They must have competed at the minimum or higher certification level at a standard rally and have achieved the minimum certification level by the closing date of the Championships. Therefore, any autumn standard rallies should base their division entry status on the competitor's age for the following year and take into account planned advancements in certification level.

District Commissioners (DCs) and Center Administrators (CAs) are responsible for the eligibility of competitors and mounts at all rallies. It is the responsibility of DCs/CAs and club/center primary instructors to see that mounts and riders are entered in rallies at the level corresponding to the combination's abilities, to make all competitors aware of health requirements i.e., Coggins, immunizations and state health certificates with valid dates, and to see that entry forms are complete and submitted to the rally secretary on time. It is also the responsibility of DCs/CAs to see that all Pony Club members in their jurisdiction have access to a copy of the current USPC discipline rulebook, current USPC Horse Management Handbook (HMH), current USPC discipline annual newsletter(s) and any other relevant information from the USPC discipline committees or the organizer of a specific rally where they will be competing.

Article 6—Member in Good Standing

Members are considered in good standing if they are current with all dues and fees owed the registered club/riding center program, and region.

Article 7—Code of Conduct Expectations

Anyone not conforming to the code of conduct is subject to the following action: the officials of the competition may immediately suspend or expel any individual from the competition upon consulting with the discipline ground jury.

DCs, CAs, RSs, rally organizers, officials and judges must be familiar with, and enforce, the Participating Member and Adult Code of Conduct.

Participating Member Code of Conduct

The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. is proud of its reputation for good sportsmanship, horsemanship, teamwork and well-behaved members. The USPC expects appropriate behavior from all members, parents and others participating in any USPC activity. Inappropriate behavior may include, but is not limited to: possession, use or distribution of any illegal drugs or alcohol; profanity, vulgar language or gestures; harassment (i.e., using words or actions that intimidate, threaten or persecute others before, during or following USPC activities); failure to follow rules; cheating; and abusing a mount.

Adult Code of Conduct

The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. is proud of its reputation for good sportsmanship, horsemanship, teamwork and well-behaved members. It expects no less from the parents, guardians, adult family members or others who volunteer for the organization. The USPC expects appropriate behavior when participating in any Pony Club activity. Inappropriate behavior may include, but not be limited to: profanity, vulgar language or gestures; harassment (for example: using words or actions that intimidate, threaten or persecute others before, during or following any Pony Club activity); failure to follow rules; cheating; or abusive behavior.

"I understand that USPC activities operate under the governance of USPC and are subject to all applicable USPC By-laws, Policies, Rules and Regulations. I understand that I have access to these By-laws, Policies, Rules and Regulations and that it is my responsibility to read them. I agree to adhere to these By-laws, Policies, Rules, Regulations and this Code of Conduct."

Article 8—Human Use of and Alcohol & Drugs Policy (Policy 0500)

In the interest in the safety and welfare of all, it is the policy of the Board of Governors, during any Pony Club activities, to prohibit the inappropriate or illegal use of any substance, including but not limited to drugs or alcohol, by anyone participating in any manner. Weapons of any kind are forbidden.

Article 9—Mounts (Policy 0840)

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.

SECTION I: USPC Rally Uniform Officiation Rules (UOR)

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 RS 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 the Mount Substitution online application found on the Championships Information page of the USPC website.

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 online application found on the Championships Information page of the USPC website. 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. The welfare of the mount will be the highest priority in this situation and all

competitors must agree that if the horse management, judges, technical delegate/steward, or organizers 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—Veterinary Care and Medications (Policy 0860 and 0860.P1)

Per USPC Policy 0860 and 0860.P1. 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 normal foodstuff. It is administered either orally, via stomach tube, by application to an external surface, or by injection.
3. Any mount under treatment by a veterinarian for a condition requiring administration of a medication while at a Pony Club activity or competition shall have a veterinarian's certificate stating the diagnosis, medication, dosage and method of administration.
4. Supplements that are administered to any mount at a Pony Club activity or competition must be recorded on the mount's feed chart and stall card.
5. Medications or supplements may only be administered by the owner of the mount, or by a person designated by the owner of the mount.
6. If, during the course of an activity, it becomes necessary to administer a tranquilizer, stimulant, or depressant (e.g., for suturing) the mount may not be used while under the influence of the medication.
7. Competitors at a rally shall be governed by the procedures on the use of equine medications and supplements described in the Horse Management Handbook.

For any competitions recognized by USEF, or in states that require it, mounts may be drug tested.

Article 13—Cruelty to and Abuse of a Mount

Cruelty to or the abuse of a mount present on the grounds of any competition is forbidden and renders the offender subject to penalty. The organizing committee must bar violators from further participation for the remainder of the competition.

SECTION I: USPC Rally Uniform Officiation Rules (UOR)

Any action(s) against a mount by a competitor or other person, which are deemed excessive by a judge, steward, technical delegate or competition veterinarian, in the competition ring or anywhere on the competition grounds may be punished by official warning, elimination, or other sanctions which may be deemed appropriate by the organizing committee. Such action(s) may include, but are not limited to excessive use of the whip or spurs.

USPC, judges, stewards, or TDs may appoint a veterinarian to inspect any animal on competition grounds or entered to compete. Refusal to submit an animal for examination by an authorized veterinarian after due notification shall constitute a violation.

The following are included under the words cruelty and abuse but are not limited thereto:

1. Abuse. Any act or series of actions that, in the opinion of a judge, TD, steward, member of the discipline ground jury or other rally official can clearly and without doubt be defined as abuse of mounts shall be penalized by disqualification. Such acts include, but are not limited to:
 - Riding an exhausted mount.
 - Excessive pressing of a tired mount.
 - Excessive use of whip and/or spurs, and/or bit.
 - Striking a mount in front of the shoulder.
 - Riding an obviously lame mount.
2. Rapping. All rapping (poling) is forbidden.
3. Whip. The use of the whip must be for a good reason, at an appropriate time, in the right place, and with appropriate severity.
 - Reason—The whip must only be used either as an aid to encourage the mount forward, or as a reprimand. It must never be used to vent a rider's temper. Such use is always excessive.
 - Time—As an aid, the only appropriate time is when a mount is reluctant to go forward under normal aids of the seat and legs. As a reprimand, the only appropriate time is immediately after a mount has been disobedient, e.g., napping or refusing. The whip should not be used after elimination. The whip should not be used after a mount has jumped the last fence on a course or completed the last obstacle.
 - Place—As an aid to go forward, the whip may be used down the shoulder or behind the rider's leg. As a reprimand, it must only be used behind the rider's leg. It must never be used overhand, e.g., a whip in the right hand being used on the left flank. The use of a whip on a mount's head, neck, etc., is always excessive use.
 - Severity—As a reprimand only, a mount may be hit hard. However, it should never be hit more than two times for any one incident. If a mount is marked by the whip, e.g., the skin is broken, its use is excessive.

4. End of the Reins (Western Trail only) - The use of the end of the reins must be for a good reason, at an appropriate time, in the right place, and with appropriate severity.
 - Reason—The end of the reins must only be used either as an aid to encourage the mount forward, or as a reprimand. It must never be used to vent a rider's temper. Such use is always excessive.
 - Time—As an aid, the only appropriate time is when a mount is reluctant to go forward under normal aids of the seat and legs. As a reprimand, the only appropriate time is immediately after a mount has been disobedient, e.g., napping or refusing. The end of the reins should not be used after elimination.
 - Place—As an aid to go forward, the end of the reins may be used down the shoulder or behind the rider's leg. As a reprimand, it must only be used behind the rider's leg. It must never be used overhand, e.g., the end of the reins in the right hand being used on the left flank. The use of the end of the reins on a mount's head, neck, etc., is always excessive use.
 - Severity—As a reprimand only, a mount may be hit hard. However, it should never be hit more than two times for any one incident. If a mount is marked by the end of the reins, e.g., the skin is broken, its use is excessive.
5. Spurs—Spurs must not be used to reprimand a mount. Such use is always excessive, as is any use that results in a mount's skin being broken.
6. Bit—The bit must never be used to reprimand a mount. Any such use is always excessive.
7. Reporting—Officials must report such actions as soon as possible to the discipline ground jury, supported where possible by statements from witnesses.
 - 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 are obliged to disqualify the competitor forthwith on their own authority. There is no appeal against a discipline ground jury's decision in a case of abuse.

Article 14—Dangerous Riding

- Any competitor who rides in such a way as to constitute a hazard to the safety or wellbeing of the competitor, mount, 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. There is no appeal against a discipline ground jury decision.

SECTION I: USPC Rally Uniform Officiation Rules (UOR)

Article 15—Safety (Policy 0800)

USPC is committed to safety while recognizing that equestrian activities are inherently dangerous. The USPC Safety Handbook is an excellent resource for 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 0810**): 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 0830**): 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. A member may wear a body protector at their discretion for any mounted activity. 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 0820 and 0820P**):
 - 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, they 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.

5. Smoking: In the interest of barn safety, it is strictly forbidden for anyone to smoke in or around barn and stable areas.

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.
- 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:

SECTION I: USPC Rally Uniform Officiation Rules (UOR)

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

Disqualification is a punishment for misconduct arising from a deliberate attempt to contravene the rules and regulations of USPC applied at the discretion of the discipline ground jury. Any disqualified competitor and their mount may not take further part in the competition including in horse management.

Reasons for disqualification include, but are 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 (Article 12);

If such actions are reported, the discipline ground jury shall decide if there is a case to be answered. When considering the disqualification of a competitor, the discipline ground jury may decide to give a Yellow (Warning) Card in lieu of disqualifying a competitor. If a Yellow Card is assigned to a competitor, it may or may not include penalty points not to exceed a 50% impact on the associated phase score if related to a single phase, or a 50% impact on the overall score. There is no appeal against a discipline ground jury decision on issuing a Yellow Card or disqualifying a competitor.

Refer to Section V for additional discipline specific reasons for disqualification and scoring.

SECTION II: General Regulations

Chapter 1—Team Composition

Article 22—Team Formation

Regional Rallies:

The district commissioner (DC) or center administrator (CA) of local clubs/centers are responsible for club/center team formation at regional rallies. A team made up of members from one local club/center remains the ideal and is always the goal. Scramble teams made up of members from multiple clubs/centers are also accepted. The DCs/CAs of the clubs/centers involved may assist the rally organizer in forming scramble teams. Regional supervisors (RSs) may have final determination.

Championships:

The RS is responsible for region team formation for Championships. A team made up of members from one region remains the ideal and is always the goal. RSs who have individual competitors who have earned eligibility for Championships, and whose region is unable to field a team for Championships, may submit individuals for Championships who will be placed on a scramble team by the Championships discipline secretary. Requests for preferred teammates may be submitted, but are not guaranteed.

Article 23—Team Configuration

1. Teams shall normally consist of 3 or 4 riding members and an unmounted stable manager. One member of the team will be designated as team captain. A competitor may serve as both the stable manager and team captain at the same time. The team members can all belong to one or possibly multiple divisions as determined by the rally organizer.
2. At the organizer's discretion, there may be an alternative configuration of teams based on entries.
3. The requirement of an unmounted stable manager may be waived at regional rallies by the regional supervisor.

Article 24—Team Captains

Each team entered in the competition shall have one member designated as team captain who shall act as spokesperson for the team. Only the team captain may lodge a protest on behalf of any team member (Appendix I).

The team captain is responsible for all communications between the team and rally officials. The team captain is the official spokesperson for the team. In the event of an inquiry, protest or appeal, the captain represents the team. The competitor involved should accompany the captain. It is the responsibility of team captains to ensure that their team members follow all rules and regulations of the competition and to transmit to them any changes or additional instructions provided by rally officials. Any withdrawal of a team member must be reported to the TD.

Teams losing a team captain to illness must designate another team member to take over the responsibilities of

captain. If the original captain returns, they will resume the responsibilities of captain.

Article 25—Stable Managers

A non-riding stable manager is required at Championships. At regional rallies, non-riding stable managers are highly recommended. Riding stable managers may be allowed at the discretion of the RS. The stable manager works closely with the team captain to coordinate preparations for the rally, in addition to assisting in keeping the team organized and on schedule during the competition.

Article 26—Mount Specifications

All mounts entered in a USPC Eventing rally must meet the requirements outlined in Article 9.

In addition for Eventing competitions, mounts may not compete in more than one Eventing competition held on the same day(s). Competitors may not share mounts in Eventing competitions held on the same day(s).

Article 27—Chaperones/Emergency Contacts

All competitors below the age of majority must have an official chaperone, 21 years of age or older, listed with rally organizers. All competitors above the age of majority must have an emergency contact, who is available during the competition, listed with the rally organizers. Please review the following criteria for chaperones and emergency contacts.

1. Chaperones:

- Any team with a competitor under the age of majority must have an official chaperone, 21 years of age or older, designated for the competition.
- The chaperone will act as the contact person for that team and must always be on the rally grounds during competition hours.
- Several individuals may share one team's chaperone duties, but only one name will be listed as the official chaperone. All persons sharing this duty should be made aware of this name and answer to it.
- The chaperone should serve as a volunteer for the competition but may not assume coaching duties.
- Anyone serving as team chaperone must understand and agree to the duties outlined in Appendix III.

2. Emergency Contacts:

- Any competitor above the age of majority must submit a completed Emergency Contact Form (Appendix III) with their entry.
- Those listed as an emergency contact must be available by phone during the competition.

SECTION II: General Regulations

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 and including 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.

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.

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Modified Beginner Novice and Novice levels

A rider must compete in two horse trials (HT) at or above the competition level.

1. Compete in a standard or modified USPC Eventing rally and one USEA Recognized HT.
2. Or, if no regional eventing rally is available, then the member may 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.

1. Complete in a standard USPC Eventing rally and one USEA Recognized HT.
2. Or, if no regional eventing rally is available, then the member may 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 must be completed in the eighteen months preceding Championships.

1. Compete in a standard or modified USPC Eventing rally and two USEA Recognized HTs.
2. Or, if no regional eventing rally is available, then the member may 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.

1. Complete a standard USPC Eventing rally and two USEA Recognized HTs.
2. Or, if no regional eventing rally is available, then the member may 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. 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 the competitor or mount, as designated by rally officials. Pinnies must always be worn in the barn area. Competitor nametags must always be worn, except when mounted.

SECTION II: General Regulations

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. Attire requirements may be adjusted based on excessive heat as detailed in Article 15. 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—May be any color, with accents which meets USPC Helmet Policy (Article 15.1).

Hair—Hair should be neatly secured (away from the eyes) and may not cover competitor number.

Shirt—Shirt of any color and design 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, pre-tied stock ties may be worn with or without stock pin.

Coat/Jackets/Vest—Short riding coat of a single color (including tweeds and pinstripes) with accents. 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, that covers the ankles (short or tall) with a heel. Tall black, brown, or other dark hue, dress or field boots, or jodhpur/paddock boots with matching full grain smooth leather leg piece or leather-like material are allowed. Accents of a different color are permitted.

Permitted

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

Safety/Protective Vests—Any color.

Spurs—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. If the shank is curved, the spurs must be worn only with the shank directed downwards. Metal or plastic spurs with round hard plastic or metal knobs “Impulse spurs” and “Dummy spurs” with no shank are allowed. Spurs with rowels are allowed in warm-up only. If they are used, rowels must be free to rotate and the rowel must be round and smooth (no tines allowed). Spurs capable of wounding a horse are forbidden.

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).

Hair—Hair should be neatly secured (away from the eyes) and may not cover competitor number.

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

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Protective Vests— Per Article 15.2, any color.

Pants—Jodhpurs or Breeches, any color.

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

Footwear—Conventional type of riding footwear, that covers the ankles (short or tall) with a heel. Tall black, brown, or other dark hue, dress or field boots, or jodhpur/paddock boots with matching full grain smooth leather leg piece or leather-like material are allowed. Accents of a different color are permitted.

Permitted

Gloves—Any type, color

Spurs—As described in Dressage Attire.

Show Jumping Attire

Required

Helmet—May be any color, with accents which meets USPC Helmet Policy (Article 15.1).

Hair— Hair should be neatly secured (away from the eyes) and may not cover competitor number.

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

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

Coat/Jacket—Short riding coat of a single color (including tweeds and pinstripes) with accents. Competitors may compete without a jacket. In such cases, the shirt must be neatly tucked into the riding breeches.

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

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

Footwear—Conventional type of riding footwear, that covers the ankles (short or tall) with a heel. Tall black, brown, or other dark hue, dress or field boots, or jodhpur/paddock boots with matching full grain smooth leather leg piece or leather-like material are allowed. Accents of a different color are permitted.

Permitted

Gloves—Dark color, tan, beige or white.

Safety/Protective Vests—Any color.

Spurs—As described in Dressage Attire.

Not Permitted

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

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 (away from the eyes) and may not cover competitor number.

Shirt—Collared shirt with sleeves and tucked in.

Pants—Long pants.

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

Permitted

Belt—Any type/color.

Gloves—Any type/color.

Half-chaps—Any type/color.

Safety/Protective Vests—Any color.

Spurs— As described in Dressage Attire.

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.

Safety/Protective Vests—Any color.

Spurs— As described in Dressage Attire.

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

SECTION III: Competition

5. Finishing Lines: The last obstacle on course shall be not less than 25 meters nor more than 75 meters from the finishing line.
6. Plan of the Course:
 - A. Each competitor will be given in advance a plan showing the track of the course.
 - B. The plan must include the following: the position of the start and finish lines, the numbered compulsory passages, the numbered obstacles, the distance, the optimum time, the time limit.
 - C. Simple water crossings shall be flagged at the entrance.
7. Spectators should not be in such a position as to obstruct a competitor.

Article 48—Cross-Country Obstacles

1. Definition:
 - A. An obstacle is considered if and only if its extremities are marked with a red and white flag or flags and it is numbered.
 - B. All significant jumping efforts that the average horse may be expected to attempt to negotiate must be defined as an obstacle or element and flagged, numbered and/or lettered accordingly.
2. Obstacles with Elements or Options:
 - A. If two or more jumping efforts, sited closely together, are designed as one integral test, they will be designated as “elements” of a single numbered obstacle. Each element will be marked with a different letter (A, B, C, etc.) and must be negotiated in the correct order.
 - B. Where two or more jumping efforts are sited so closely together that after a refusal or run out it would be unreasonably difficult to attempt to negotiate the second or subsequent effort without retaking one or more earlier efforts, these jumping efforts must be designated as one numbered obstacle and lettered accordingly.
 - C. Where an obstacle may be jumped in one effort but has options involving two or more efforts, each of these options must be lettered as an element.
3. Nature of Obstacles:
 - A. The obstacles must be fixed and imposing in shape and appearance. When natural obstacles are used, they should, if necessary, be reinforced so that they remain in the same state throughout the test. All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent the possibility of a competitor being able to pass mounted under an obstacle. Portable fences must be secured to the ground in a way that the fence cannot move.
 - B. The cross-country obstacles at which a horse, in falling, is likely to be trapped or to injure itself, must be built in such a way that part of the obstacle can be quickly dismantled and can be quickly rebuilt exactly as before. Such a construction must not in any way detract from the solidity of the obstacle.
4. Number of Jumping Efforts:
 - A. Within the limits shown in Appendix VI, the total number of jumping efforts shall be related to the length of the course.
 - B. To arrive at the number of jumping efforts, the efforts on the route expected to be taken by the average horse shall be totaled (e.g. corners labeled AB are counted as one effort).
 - C. **At the BN and Novice levels, water crossings will be flagged and numbered and subject to penalties but will not be counted in the number of jumping efforts.**
5. Dimensions:
 - A. Within the limits shown in Appendix VI, the dimensions of obstacles should be related to the quality and standard of preparation of the competitors.
 - B. The fixed and solid part of an obstacle may not exceed the specified height at any of the points at which a competitor might reasonably attempt to negotiate the obstacle.
 - C. At obstacles with spread only (dry or water filled ditch), a guard rail or hedge in front that facilitates jumping is permitted. It may not exceed 50 cm (20 inches) in height. It must be included in the measurement of the spread.
 - D. Any roof, or other fixed and solid barrier over an obstacle, must not be less than 3.36 meters (11 feet) above the ground.
6. Measurements:
 - A. The height of an obstacle is measured from the point where the average horse would take off. The spread of

C. Water Crossings:

- 1) In all water crossings, the bottom should be firm and consistent. The maximum depth of the water shall not exceed 35 cm (14”).
- 2) Water at the Beginner Novice Level shall be a straightforward water crossing without obstacles. It shall be flagged at the entrance. The minimum width of water shall be 5.0 meters (16’5”). If it is necessary to re-vet the banks, the re-vetting shall not exceed 50 cm (1’8”).
- 3) In all water crossings involving obstacles, the minimum distance between obstacles shall be 9 meters (29’3”). In all water-to-water obstacles, there shall be a minimum of 6 meters (19’6”) of water before the obstacle.

D. Bullfinches must be constructed in such a way that the average horse will be encouraged to jump through it.

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Article 57—Points and Penalties

Points and penalties in Eventing vary based on the phase. Please see the appropriate scoring section within each phase.

Article 58—Inquiries, Protests, and Appeals

- Only competitors have the right to dispute scores and only competitors can participate in the process. Any non-competitor involvement in the process is considered unauthorized assistance.
- Competitors may only inquire about their team/individual scores.
- Inquiries are encouraged if there are any scores with which the team does not agree or understand, or if they feel a mistake has occurred. Any disputes regarding scores are to be made following the procedures as stated in the governing documents.
- All inquiries, protests and appeals must be made in a polite and courteous manner. Abuse of these procedures or rude behavior may be penalized up to and including elimination and/or disqualification.
- The process will include verbal inquiry, written inquiry, written protest and written appeal, and use Appendix I.

Horse Management

Horse Management Verbal Inquiry

Verbal inquiries may be initiated if the team captain/individual competitor does not agree or **understand or if they feel a mistake has been made**. Horse management verbal inquiries are made to the CHMJ following the posting of scores.

Inquiries must be:

Initiated within 30 minutes from the time the score sheet(s) are posted by the CHMJ, and made in person 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).

If the team captain is riding when scores are posted and will not be available within the allowed thirty-minute period, another team member may notify the CHMJ that an inquiry is likely.

At the end of the required 30 minute inquiry period, the CHMJ must:

- Make any necessary adjustments/changes to scores based on the outcome of any inquiries that may have been made and are settled. (Only the CHMJ may adjust points as a result of inquiries.)
- Transcribe any changes in scores to the HM master score sheet and turn in master score sheet to the rally scorer.
- No further inquiries will be permitted, except for transcription errors. Transcription errors are a discrepancy

between actual scores shown on horse management sheets and scores posted by the scorer.

Horse Management Written Inquiry

Written inquiries may be initiated if the team captain/individual competitor disagrees with the CHMJ's decision on a verbal inquiry. Written Inquiries are made to the TD/steward via the rally office.

Written inquiries must be:

Made in writing, using the official Horse Management Written Inquiry Form (signed by the team captain/individual competitor), containing the references to the rules covering the reason for the inquiry.

Delivered within 30 minutes of the CHMJ decision on the verbal inquiry to the rally office.

Mounted Competition

Mounted Competition Scoring Written Inquiry

Written inquiries may be initiated if the team captain/individual competitor does not **understand or if they feel a mistake has been made**. Mounted competition written inquiries are made to the TD/steward following the posting of scores.

Inquiries must be:

Initiated within 30 minutes from the time the score sheet(s) are posted and made in person 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).

If the team captain is riding when scores are posted and will not be available within the allowed thirty-minute period, another team member may notify the rally office that an inquiry is likely.

Written Protest to the Discipline Ground Jury

If a team does not agree with the TD/steward's decision on a written inquiry, they may advance a written protest (utilizing the existing written inquiry form) to the discipline ground jury.

The decision must be made while the team is sequestered and within 10 minutes after the TD/steward's announcement of the decision to the team.

Written protests 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).
- Made within 10 minutes of the TD/steward's announcement of the decision to the team.

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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

The discipline ground jury may disqualify a competitor and/or a team from competition, for the reasons stated in Article 21. Or the discipline ground jury may decide to issue a Yellow (Warning) Card in lieu of disqualifying a competitor. Decisions of the discipline ground jury are not appealable except at Championships.

1. If a Yellow Card is accessed to a competitor, it may or may not include penalty points. The discipline ground jury can access penalties ranging from 0 up to the maximum penalties as defined below. Any accessed penalties should be included in the “Other” column on the scoresheet and are added to the penalty score prior to combining them with the Horse Management Score.

Dressage—The maximum number of penalties accessible for infractions related to the Dressage phase is 50 penalties added to the final penalty score.

Cross-Country—The maximum number of penalties accessible for infractions related to the Cross-Country phase is 148 penalties added to the final penalty score.

Jumping—The maximum number of penalties accessible for infractions related to the Jumping phase is 51 penalties added to the final penalty score.

Full Competition—For infractions related to the entire competition, the maximum number of penalties is 249 penalties added to the final rider penalty score.

2. 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

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shortened team ghost scoring will apply. If a stable manager is disqualified, all the team's accumulated Horse Management points 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.

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 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.

SECTION V: Officiation

Overview

The use of appropriately licensed (US Equestrian, etc.) officials is always preferable. Regarding standard rallies, appropriately licensed officials may be required. However, realizing that not every area has Pony Club-oriented licensed officials easily available, rally organizers are asked to utilize suitably experienced personnel to fill official positions. Organizers needing help are encouraged to reach out to the appropriate discipline committee (refer to [www.ponyclub.org About/Contact Us/Activities Committees](http://www.ponyclub.org>About/ContactUs/ActivitiesCommittees) to find contact information for the USPC discipline committee members). These resource people, available by e-mail, or phone, can help with courses, officials, or other questions.

Article 66—Rally Organizer

The rally organizer serves as the manager of the competition. They must be on the grounds during competition and available to rally officials in the event a problem arises concerning the facility or equipment. Rally organizers do not participate in the officiation, unless required due to extenuating circumstances. They must engage individuals necessary to fill all official capacities at the competition. Full details and job descriptions for rally organizers are available in the Rally Organizer's Guide.

Article 67—Technical Delegate (TD)

The technical delegate oversees the technical and administrative arrangements for a competition. They are responsible for knowing and enforcing the rules of the competition. The TD is the person to whom an inquiry is presented by the team captain in the event of a question regarding mathematical errors or scoring irregularities. If the initial inquiry to the TD fails to resolve the question at hand, the discipline ground jury then makes a final decision. The TD may not be a member of the discipline ground jury.

For standard rallies, the TD must be chosen from the current USEF list of approved TDs. Any variation from these qualifications must be approved by the chair of the eventing committee.

1. The organizer shall appoint a knowledgeable person to serve as TD. The TD should be licensed by U.S. Equestrian or by a comparable association.
 - A. The TD shall act with complete impartiality and report to the organizer and eventing committee, protecting the interests of competitors, judges, officials and the competition organizers. The TD shall have no connection with the management or judging of a competition.
 - B. No TD may officiate at any competition in which a member of his/her family, any owned horses or any of his/her students are competing.
 - C. No competition shall be organized and held without the presence of a TD.
2. The duties, powers, and responsibilities of the TD are defined as follows:
 - A. To protect the interests of competitors, judges, and rally organizers
 - B. Ensuring the Eventing rally is organized and managed in strict compliance with the USPC Eventing Rules
 - C. To inspect and approve: arenas and courses; to include, but not limited to, the dimensions of the obstacles and length of the courses; inspection of warm up areas; accommodations for horses, where appropriate; vehicle parking arrangements and all other physical aspects of the rally
 - D. To ensure that the courses are at the standard of the level offered, and that prior knowledge of local conditions does not play any part, and if a qualifying rally, the courses are of sufficient difficulty to prepare the riders for Championship competition
 - E. To instruct the organizer to make any alterations to the course or arenas, or to any technical detail associated with the conduct of the competition which they consider necessary. The course must be inspected early enough to allow for modifications to be made
 - F. Supervising the horse inspections
 - G. Once the competition begins, the technical delegate is responsible for accounting for the presence of all competitors and horses on rally grounds. Any withdrawals of horses or riders must be reported to the TD as soon as possible
 - H. Supervising the technical conduct of the competition
 - I. Reporting any infraction or violation of the competition rules and regulations to the organizer or eventing committee, by any competitor, coach, manager, competition official, staff member or any other person present on the competition grounds, and seeing that immediate action is taken
 - J. Furnishing the USPC eventing committee with a complete written report on the competition, including any infractions or violations of the rules, within three days following completion of the competition. (See Appendix IV.)
3. Thereafter, the responsibility for the rally rests on the discipline ground jury. The TD will continue to supervise the technical and administrative conduct of the rally, and will advise and assist the discipline ground jury and the organizing committee. Specific areas will include the following:
 - A. Supervising the briefing and conduct of all technical personnel.
 - B. Investigating all inquiries regarding scoring, including penalties awarded, report to and advise the discipline ground jury on any decisions they are required to make.

SECTION V: Officiation

- C. The TD for all rallies needs to submit a USPC TD form promptly to the USPC national office. The completed TD report serves as documentation that a Regional standard rally met the USPC requirements for a standard Eventing rally. The TD Report is available in this Rulebook and online for individuals who have a Pony Club website login.
- D. At rallies where the ground jury is occupied by judging the Dressage and/or jumping test, the technical delegate may need to supervise for the ground jury during Cross-Country.
- E. The following may not serve as the technical delegate at a rally: a member of the discipline ground jury or appeal committee, the course designer, or an officiating Dressage or jumping judge.

Article 68—Discipline Ground Jury

The discipline ground jury is the group that adjudicates and administers the rally. The discipline ground jury makes proper inquiries into both sides of cases in all protests concerning decisions made by the TD and other officials during a rally.

The discipline ground jury shall be composed of the chief judge, the chief horse management judge, and one other Pony Club knowledgeable person as appointed by the rally organizer.

The following persons are ineligible to serve on the discipline ground jury:

1. Any competitor, manager, chaperone, coach, or owner of a horse entered in the competition
2. Any close relative of a person named in item 1 above
3. Any instructor or trainer of any competitor or horse entered in the competition
4. The organizer or any member of the organizing committee
5. Any other horse management judge from that competition
6. The TD
7. Any member of the overall ground jury/appeal committee

Any variance from these qualifications must be approved by the chairman of the appropriate discipline committee.

Duties of the Discipline Ground Jury:

1. The discipline ground jury is ultimately responsible for the judging of the rally and for settling all problems that may arise during its jurisdiction. Together with the TD and organizing committee shall ensure that all arrangements for the rally, including that all competition areas are appropriate. If, after consultation with the TD, the discipline ground jury is not satisfied with the arrangements or areas, it has the authority to modify them.
2. The discipline ground jury will be responsible for determining objections against decisions by technical person-

nel, including judges and time-keepers, and may substitute their judgement for that of any judge or official, whether or not in favor of the competitor.

3. The discipline ground jury oversees all phases of a rally and determines whether competitors may continue in the next phase, after elimination or excused.
4. The members of the discipline ground jury are obliged to be on the grounds from the official rally opening until awards have been made.
5. Any member of the discipline ground jury has the duty and authority at any time during the rally to disqualify any competitor who is unfit to continue because of physical exhaustion or impairment, abusive or dangerous behavior. There is no appeal against such a decision.

Article 69—President of the Discipline Ground Jury

For standard rallies, the president of the ground jury must be selected from the current USEF list of approved event judges. For modified rallies, a USEF approved event judge is highly recommended.

Article 70—Overall Ground Jury/Appeals Committee (for Multiple Championships)

At Championships (when multiple disciplines are competing at the same time and on the same facility), there will be an overall ground jury/appeals committee composed of three to five persons to include: the Vice President of Activities (if not the organizer), the Championships Horse Management Organizer, and one or more knowledgeable horse persons designated by the organizer, one of whom will be designated president.

The purpose and duties of the overall ground jury/appeals committee include:

- Determine dress requirements for turnout inspections and competition; and responsibility for waiving of dress requirements when the heat/humidity index so indicates
- Decide issues that affect all disciplines at the Championships, so as to promote uniformity among the competitions
- Handle instances regarding the uniform application of disciplinary action for poor sportsmanship, cruelty or misbehavior by a competitor
- Make a proper inquiry into both sides of the cases in all appeals concerning decisions made by the discipline ground jury, or referred to the appeal committee by the discipline ground jury

The decision of the overall ground jury/appeals committee is final.

SECTION VI: Eventing Appendices

Appendix III: Chaperone and Emergency Contact Information

Team Chaperones vs. Emergency Contacts

When competitors under the age of majority (minors) participate in a rally, there will be a designated “Official Team Chaperone.” In the situation of scramble teams, the official team chaperone will be appointed by the rally officials and will be so noted in the rally program. The team chaperone serves as the team contact for rally and a responsible guiding presence to prepare the team for success. Competitors who are above the age of majority (adults) participating in a rally will not have a designated chaperone but must submit the name and contact information for their emergency contact.

Team Chaperones

Time Commitment

The official team chaperone is responsible for team members during the hours of competition and on competition grounds only (from arrival on grounds until departing rally ground at beginning and end of each day of competition).

Transportation, Driving and Lodging

Decisions to allow a competitor to drive or not, who they can or cannot ride with, who they can or cannot have in a vehicle that they are driving, where they stay at night and with whom they stay, and who is to be responsible for a competitor are all decisions that must be made by the parent/legal guardian. These decisions are not a decision of USPC, their region, club/center, or the rally organizer. Specific arrangements must be made by and between the parent/legal guardian and the adult assuming any of these responsibilities in the absence of the parent/guardian.

Preparing Your Team for Success

- Initiate contact with all team members prior to leaving for the competition and gather cell phone numbers as appropriate. In cases of scramble team members, request contact information from the rally secretary. Share this information with team captain and/or stable manager.
- Encourage the team to have meetings prior to leaving for rally. Be sure all members of a scramble team are included in the decision-making process, either by email or phone contact, if a distance away.
- Discuss team equipment, review all rules that apply and any decisions regarding snacks, drinks, plans for meals, etc. Determine how the team members plan to provide snacks and drinks (i.e., each team member contribute a sum of money to a pot or each member is assigned specific items to bring). If each is contributing money, it must be collected before the rally. Be sure to know who is bringing cooler(s), as to avoid a trip to the local store.

- Plan arrival time at the competition site and any details such as arrangements for ordering bedding, if needed, and who is assigned to do this (again collect money in advance if needed).
- On the first day of the rally, gather the team together before they separate for the night and make plans for the next day. Include a review of their competition schedule and how they can best work together to help each other prepare.
- Determine a regular meeting place and de-brief the team at the end of each day of competition. Take this opportunity to offer words of praise, acknowledge their accomplishments, and encourage the sense of teamwork and team building. Guide the team towards constructive criticism and steer them away from finger pointing. Have the team make plans for the next day concerning time they will arrive on the competition grounds, who will feed horses the next morning, who will re-supply the tack room cooler with ice, drinks and snacks (get requests for drinks/ snacks) and make the plans for lunch. Be sure any plans for cooler and/or lunch delivery follow any requirements as stated in the competition entry and they understand the plan. Have the team leave with a plan for the next day in place before they go off for an evening of relaxation.

Emergency Contacts

Anyone listed as an emergency contact for a competitor should be reachable by phone for the duration of the competition. Emergency contacts do not need to be on the competition grounds, but ideally are also within driving distance of the competition in the case of an emergency.

SECTION VI: Eventing Appendices

Appendix III Chaperone Form

To be completed by the chaperone and turned in with the rally entry for USPC members below the age of majority.

Chaperone duties shall include:

1. The primary function of the "Official Team Chaperone" is to ensure that there is a contact person for every USPC member below the age of majority, on the grounds for the duration of the competition.
2. While multiple Chaperone Forms may be turned in for a single team, only one person will be designated the Official Team Chaperone. If the Official Team Chaperone must leave the grounds during the competition, they must delegate the team chaperone duties to another responsible adult, making it clear that they are to respond to rally officials and any team members in your absence.
3. Be present and available to rally officials and all team members for the duration of the competition.
4. Being in contact with parents/guardians for all team members during competition hours.
5. Being in contact with all team members and their parents/guardians outside of competition hours.
6. Have copy of and be familiar with the current discipline rulebook and the current Horse Management Handbook and Rules for rallies. Rulebooks available for download from www.ponyclub.org.
7. Be aware that USPC members are required to wear a current, up to date USPC medical card/bracelet on their arm at all USPC activities.
8. Be familiar with the effects of heat and humidity and the potential risk for heat related illness. Take an active role in helping to keep all team members well hydrated and take every opportunity to encourage water breaks.
9. Uphold USPC Substances and Weapons Policy which prohibits the inappropriate or illegal use of any substance, including but not limited to drugs or alcohol, by anyone participating in any manner. Weapons of any kind are forbidden. Refer to About/About the Organization/By-Laws, Policies and Resolutions on www.ponyclub.org for the full policy statement.
10. Remember that administration of medications is the sole responsibility of the parent/guardian.

I have read and understand the duties of a chaperone as listed above.

Chaperone for the following team or individual(s)

Name of Chaperone

Cell Phone Number

Signature

Date

SECTION VI: Eventing Appendices

Appendix III Emergency Contact Form

for USPC Members Above the Age of Majority

The age of majority is the threshold of adulthood in law. As USPC members above the age of majority are adults in the eyes of the law and therefore responsible for themselves; USPC does not require a “chaperone” for these members at competitions. USPC does require that members above the age of majority submit Emergency Contact information for each competition. Age of majority varies per state.

USPC Member: _____ Current Age: _____ State of Residence: _____

Competition Name: _____ Competition Date: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Relationship to Competitor: _____

Emergency Contact Home Phone Number: _____

Emergency Contact Cell Phone Number: _____

An additional Emergency Contact can be included, but is not required.

Secondary Emergency Contact Name: _____

Secondary Emergency Contact Relationship to Competitor: _____

Secondary Emergency Contact Home Phone Number: _____

Secondary Emergency Contact Cell Phone Number: _____

SECTION VI: Eventing Appendices

Appendix VI Eventing Coaching Guidelines Form

Each coach should have a copy and a signed copy submitted with entries. Photocopy as necessary.

Penalties for violating these coaching guidelines will be assessed by the discipline ground jury and/or overall ground jury under the rules governing unauthorized assistance. Any coach not adhering to the rules set forth below may be removed from their position for the duration of the phase and/or competition.

Coaches are recommended for Eventing rallies and Championships. There may be one or more coaches per team; the organizer or ring steward may limit the number of coaches in a warm-up area at any given time.

Agreement

By signing this form, you:

- Agree to be familiar with and observe all USPC By-Laws, Policies and competition rules.
- Agree to be governed by Horse Management guidelines as expected of competitors, including appropriate attire, footwear and conduct.
- Agree to adhere to the USPC Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics Policies in all your actions and decisions.
- Agree to conduct yourself in a fair and courteous manner.

Coaches Must

- Check in as requested and attend any official coaches' briefings.
- Be familiar with, understand and comply with the current USPC discipline and Horse Management rules.
- Be aware of the welfare of horse and rider.
- Wear identification as provided by the organizer/secretary during the competition times.
- Follow all discipline coach parameters outlined in the discipline rulebook.
- Assist competitors in learning and understanding all rules pertinent to the competition.
- Help any Pony Club competitor who asks for help or who is present without a coach.

All phase coaches must sign that they have read this sheet:

I _____ have read and agree to follow the USPC Eventing Rulebook and above guidelines for coaching.

Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____

Date: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please list the competitors/teams you are coaching:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Coaches Must Not

- Enter the barn except during authorized visiting times.
- Interfere with the immediate care of the mount under penalty of elimination of the competitor.
- Coach in a manner that interferes with the warm-up of other competitors.
- Be the organizer, and member of the organizing committee or any other official of the competition.
- Be a team chaperone.
- Be a regional supervisor at a regional competition.

Coaching Duties

- Warming-up competitors for competition in the designated warm-up areas only.
- In addition, a coach may lead a competitor's mount into the arena area.
- Coaches may observe but not participate in (unless requested), soundness checks or horse inspections.
- Meet with the team to discuss ride times, planning and how to best utilize the coach within the team.

Communications between Coaches and Competitors

- Coaches may communicate with the competitors during the official briefing and any subsequent briefings as required by the organizer and in the warm-up area prior to and following the competitor's ride.
- Coaches may accompany competitors during their ride, arena inspection, course walks or any other subsequent times competition areas are open for warm-up, during which they may give advice and coach.

Competitors who wish to Coach while Competing

Championships competitors who are 18 years of age as of January 1 of the competition year may coach other members recognizing that:

- No scheduling changes will be made to accommodate coaching /riding times.
- Care of mount and other competitor responsibilities take precedence over coaching.

SECTION VI: Eventing Appendices

Appendix VII Eventing Yellow (Warning) Card

UNITED STATES PONY CLUBS

A yellow warning card may be issued by the discipline ground jury after being notified by a technical delegate, steward, or competition official at a USPC competition to any competitor, spectator or participant for improper conduct, or for noncompliance with the rules. When issuing a yellow card, the discipline ground jury may assess penalty points as outlined in Article 21 and 61.

Important information to know about the issuance of a Warning (Yellow) Card:

1. A Yellow Card is a warning with possible attached penalty points given for any infraction that is a disqualifiable offense.
2. A Yellow Card may be, but is not required to be given before the disqualification of a competitor or team.
3. A Yellow Card that incurs penalty points that will be recorded in the "Other" column of the scoresheet.
4. There is no appeal against receiving a Yellow Card.
5. A copy of any Yellow Card issued must be sent to the Activities Department, activities@ponyclub.org.

Issued to: (Name) _____ Competitor # _____

Region/Club/Center _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

At the following competition: _____

Date/Time of incident: _____ Description of incident: _____

(please use back of page if necessary)

Issuing Official: (print) _____ Position: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Activities Department • United States Pony Clubs • 4041 Iron Works Parkway • Lexington, KY 40511 •
859.254.7669 • Fax 859.223.4652 • www.ponyclub.org