

WITS END CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS RULES

HOW THE WINNER IS DETERMINED?

Penalty points are incurred as the result of the negotiation or attempted negotiation of an obstacle and are awarded to each competitor, the winner being the competitor with the least penalties.

HOW ARE PENALTIES AWARDED?

Jump based penalties - Refusals / Run outs / Circles (see below for further details)

Basically if you fail to go over a jump on valid attempt you will receive 20 penalties. The penalties apply to a rider, so if competing in a pair each rider can receive penalties for the same jump. You must move to the next jump if you incur three refusals/runouts/circles at a jump. That is three for a single rider or three between a pair.

Note if you miss out a jump you will be disqualified.

Time based penalties (NOTE THAT YOU CANNOT WEAR A STOP WATCH)

An "optimum time" is given for each class and is derived from the course distance divided by a speed in meters per minute:

For each second under the "optimum time" 0.4 penalties are given. For each second over the optimum time 1 penalty is given.

HOW DO I GET DISQUALIFIED?

- You miss a jump
- You fall off/your horse falls
- Dangerous riding
- Misuse of the whip or spur
- Ill treatment of a horse
- Lamé, unfit or exhausted horses
- Wearing a stopwatch

Refusals / Run outs / Circles

Refusals

At obstacles a horse is considered to have refused if it stops in front of the obstacle or element to be jumped. If a horse then steps back, this is considered a refusal. After a refusal, if the competitor re-doubles or changes his effort, still without success, or if the horse is re-presented at the obstacle after stepping back and stops or steps back again, this is a second refusal and incurs further penalties.

At obstacles a stop, followed immediately by a standing jump is not penalised, unless the stop is sustained or in any way prolonged. stepping back, even one foot, this is a refusal.

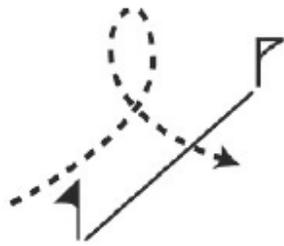
Run-Outs

A horse is considered to have run out if having been presented at an obstacle it avoids that obstacle in such a way that it has to be re-presented.

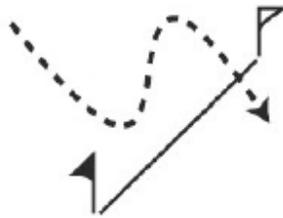
Circles

A horse is considered to have circled if it crosses its original track, from whichever direction, while negotiating or attempting to negotiate the obstacle, or any part thereof. If a horse completes a circle while being re-presented at the obstacle after a refusal or a run-out, it is penalised only for the refusal or run-out but not for both.

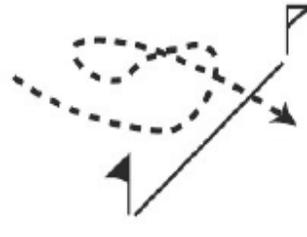
Examples of the above (note 10a / 10b are considered a combination jump)



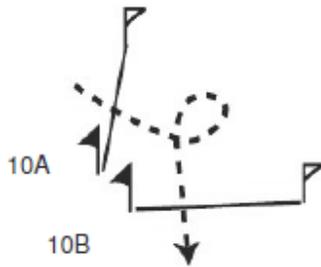
Not presented initially
(0 penalties)



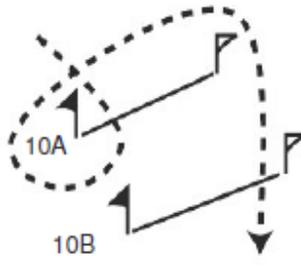
Run-out
(20 penalties)



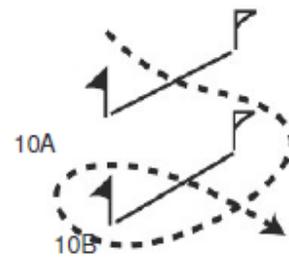
Run-out
(20 penalties)



Circle
(20 penalties)



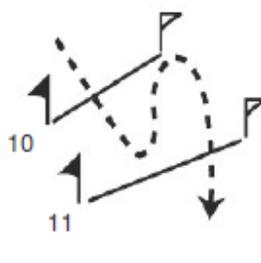
Circle
(20 penalties)



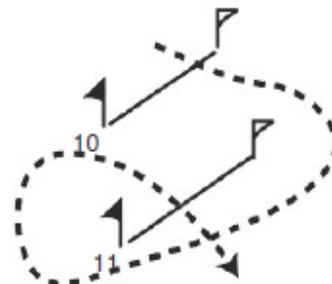
Circle
(20 penalties)



Not presented initially
(0 penalties)



Run-out
(20 penalties)



Not presented at 11
(0 penalties)