

NZCCA Judging Clarifications

(arising from Judge Standardisation Day 31.8.19)

amended October 2019



The following clarifications in relation to rules and specific instances are endorsed by the NZCCA Council and all judges are expected to follow them. Keep this with your Rule Book.

1. If a competitor does not keep the obstacle number/marker on their right (or other designated position), as advised at the course walk, they will have **1 point deducted** for this.
2. Exit point markers after an obstacle are not necessary and the obstacle is taken as finished when the horse has all four feet off the obstacle.
3. If a competitor fails to go through the finish line markers, they are seen as leaving the course and will be immediately **eliminated**.
4. If the course designer states on the course walk that a specific path between obstacles is to be followed, eg going around a designated cone/log/tree, and this is not done so by a competitor, a **3 minute time penalty** is to be applied (advised to the writer by the judge). The designated marker must be clear to riders.
5. If a competitor starts but does not complete the obstacle within the 45 seconds (or other designated time allowance), the judge will only judge up until the 45 seconds and **deduct 3 points** from their score for going over time. "Over time" (OT) is to be written against that obstacle on the score sheet. No leeway should be given on the 45 seconds; however if they are very close to completing at 45 seconds they can be allowed to do so (whistle not blown) but "over time" must still be recorded and scored. **Note:** *The points deduction does not apply when a competitor has stalled at the approach; a "valid attempt" score should then be applied. Nor does the points deduction apply to the Free Ride.*
6. If a competitor catches up with the competitor in front, ie there are two horses on the same half of the course, the second competitor is to be held up until the course is clear enough to continue and their time adjusted accordingly. It is the organiser's responsibility to have a plan in place should this happen and ensure that the adjusted time can be recorded – the timing is not the role of the judge.
7. If a rider's horse becomes loose on the course (eg rider falls off or horse departs a ground tie), any form of stopping the horse from leaving the course or redirecting it is seen as "assistance" (eg waving arms in front of the horse). The competitor is therefore **eliminated**.
8. Where scoring includes mount/dismount, this should be judged as stated for the obstacle (eg smooth, athletic) and not by method of doing it.
9. It is the rider's responsibility, knowing the capability of their horse and conditions on the day, to determine the speed in which to do an obstacle, with safety being paramount, rather than the judge dictating this on the course walk.
10. In the Free Ride, the rider should acknowledge the judge in some way to let them know they have finished if they complete before the 45 seconds, eg waving of the arm (as this can be difficult to determine). This needs to be made known at the course walk.
11. The Bridle Remove obstacle is to be given **90 seconds to complete** (45 seconds is insufficient time). Leading the horse at a run should be over a short distance. There is no mark down for putting the rope or tying the halter around the horse's neck when removing bridle or putting it on again.
12. If a judge expects to see something particular done on an obstacle that is not specifically stated in the Rule Book, such as waving a flag about, rocking on a see-saw bridge, they must state this in the course walk. The action must fall within the boundaries of the Rule Book.