

## FEI Press Release

Hong Kong, China (HKG), 7 November 2025



# FEI™ GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Hong Kong, China (HKG) 4-7 November 2025

### FEI General Assembly approves restructured FEI Jumping Rules

The FEI General Assembly has approved, with 96% approval, the restructured FEI Jumping Rules, which will take effect on 1 January 2026.

The proposed Article 259 on Jumping Recorded Warnings was also approved. In doing so National Federations acknowledged the Rule as a meaningful advancement, enhancing horse welfare through added measures and safeguards, as follows:

- New mandatory fitness-to-compete checks by the Ground Jury, in consultation with the Veterinary Delegate, in all cases of blood.
- Horses now only permitted to continue competing if passed fit-to-compete following the above Veterinary check.
- Clearer rules for FEI Officials, removing the “minor” distinction and ensuring greater consistency and objectivity.
- Increased transparency and accountability for athletes, with all Jumping Recorded Warnings published by the FEI.
- Automatic notification to National Federations of all Jumping Recorded Warnings concerning their athletes, enabling them to better monitor cases and decide whether to impose additional welfare checks or measures.

The rules that are still in place and remain unchanged are:

- mandatory disqualification for excessive use of spurs;
- the Abuse of Horse provisions; and
- the possibility of opening separate disciplinary proceedings to impose additional sanctions.

“We fully acknowledge and thank the National Federations for the constructive discussions throughout the week, which clearly reflected a shared commitment to finding solutions,” FEI Secretary General Sabrina Ibanez said.

“Despite differing opinions, we were able to gain a clearer understanding of each other’s positions and were also able to clarify several misunderstandings and misconceptions.

“We acknowledge that the approval was not unanimous and have taken note of the request from several National Federations for a more harmonised approach to the topic across disciplines and we are committed to looking into this.

“We will take a structured, evidence-based approach grounded in thorough consultation and driven by data. Our ongoing projects at the FEI will play a key role in supporting accurate data recording, and we will continue to advance safety and welfare through evidence-based measures that are both rigorous and robust to further demonstrate our unwavering support to horse welfare.

“We acknowledge that a number of National Federations voted against the proposal. While their reasons may vary, we take this outcome seriously and are committed to examining it carefully to better understand the concerns and address them as we move forward.”