

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2023	4/25/2023	Approved 6/20/2023

### Rule Change Intent

The conflict of interest rules for officials should match regardless of the division. By creating special exceptions based on the division or type of license, level playing fields are varied across the breeds and divisions. Client relationships between competitors and Licensed Officials that either are scheduled to begin in the future or are temporarily terminated for the purposes of competing before the Licensed Official, are currently considered to be violations of the conflict of interest rules. The Federation currently interprets its conflict of interest rules and the prohibition of client relationships between competitors and Licensed Officials to cover those anticipated between the parties, i.e. those scheduled to begin following to conclusion of the competition. Therefore, this proposed rule change will be more permissive by allowing competitors to become clients of Licensed Officials once more than thirty days have elapsed following the conclusion of the competition.

Currently, the definition of clinics prohibits all one-on-one instruction. This rule change proposal will permit one-on-one instruction at a clinic, so long as the instruction is limited to the clinic setting and does not extend beyond that period of time. Participation in multiple clinics are permitted under the rules.

The following examples are provided for additional clarity and understanding:

#### Example A

- A judge officiates over the weekend at a competition. They stay an additional day to teach a clinic for local riders, and the clinic participants includes riders that competed over the weekend. The clinic includes group or one-on-one sessions. This is permitted.

#### Example B

- A judge teaches a horse/rider combination once a month. The judge and rider plan to continue this consistent training schedule for many years. The rider wants to compete at a competition where the judge is officiating. The rider should contact Competition Management in advance of the competition to share the conflict so the schedule can be accommodated, if possible, and the rider or horse can compete in front of a different judge.

#### Example C

- A judge teaches an annual clinic at the same farm/boarding facility every year. After teaching a clinic, at a competition three months later, one of the clinic participants wishes to compete at a competition where the judge/clinician is officiating. This is permitted because the relationship concludes at the clinic.

#### Example D

- A judge owns a horse and keeps it at a boarding facility in a training program. The judge's trainer wishes to compete at a competition where the judge is officiating. The judge's trainer will compete in classes where the judge is not officiating. This is permitted.

#### Example E

- A judge owns a horse and keeps it at a boarding facility in a training program. The judge moves their horse to a different boarding facility 30 days prior to the start date of a competition where they are officiating. The judge has the intention of moving their horse back to the original boarding facility and training program immediately after the competition. The relationship between the judge and trainer is not terminated since there is a plan to continue to the relationship in the future. The judge's trainer cannot compete in classes where the judge is officiating, even if the horse is moved. The judge's trainer is permitted to compete at the same competition, but only in classes where the judge is not officiating, regardless of whether the horse is moved from the original boarding facility and training program.

#### Example F

- A judge is also a trainer and leads a training program at a boarding facility. A new client has signed a contract to board at the facility and receive training from the judge/trainer starting May 1. The new client cannot compete in front of the judge/trainer at a competition in April because a future relationship has been established within 30 days following the conclusion of the competition. The new client may compete at the same competition where the judge/trainer is officiating, but only in classes where the judge/trainer is not officiating.

#### Example G

- A judge officiates at a competition. They wait until the end of the competition to reach out to the owner of a horse that was at the same competition to inquire if it is for sale. This is permitted. The judge ends up purchasing the horse within 30 days after the competition. This is also permitted.

Proponent Details

Licensed Officials

Contact Information

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Linked Rules

GR 1304 (041-22)

Comments

Committee Actions

Council - Natl Breed & Discipline

**Draft 3:** Recommends Approval 05/22/2023

Council - Intl Discipline

**Draft 3:** Recommends Disapproval 06/06/2023

**Draft 3: The IDC recommends that USEF collaborate with USDF and Dressage Staff to clearly define clinic for the sport as well as the suitable number of days between when a judge teaches/gives instruction and the start of a competition where the same judge officiates.**

Council - Member Services

**Draft 3:** Recommends Approval 05/09/2023

Draft #3 addresses the grammatical comments USDF provided, adds back the eventing/driving Ground Jury related section on how to handle complaints, and removes the 30-day post-competition restriction within the “ongoing relationship” definition.

GR1304 Regulations Governing Showing Under Judges, Stewards, and Technical Delegates (See also GR107 for definition of Client)

1. *See also GR1039, GR1040, GR1041, and GR107.*
2. *For the purposes of this rule, any references to “compete” includes serving in the role of trainer, coach, owner, lessor, lessee, exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, and vaulter.*
3. *For the purposes of this rule, any references to “rider” includes riders, drivers, and vaulters.*
4. *For purposes of this rule, “ongoing relationship” is a relationship that has not been terminated at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of the competition.*
5. *The following are not permitted to compete in a class being officiated by a Judge if there is an ongoing relationship between the individual competing (see above definition) and the judge:*
  - a. *A Judge’s family member, cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, or member of a Judge’s household;*
  - b. *A Judge’s client, employers, or employees;*
  - c. *Employers of a member of the Judge’s family;*
  - d. *A Judge’s trainer or coach;*
  - e. *A Judge’s trainer’s or coach’s clients;*
  - f. *A horse trained by the Judge or a member of the Judge’s family;*
  - g. *A horse sold by the Judge or by the Judge’s employer;*
  - h. *A horse leased by the Judge or by the Judge’s employer;*
  - i. *A horse owned by the Judge (including but not limited to syndicate and partnership shares);*
  - j. *Any individual that has received or has contracted to receive any remuneration for the sale, purchase, or lease of any horse, unless the sale or purchase has been made and fully concluded at public auction;*
  - k. *Any individual that pays board to the Judge. Retiree and broodmare board are excluded;*
  - l. *A rider whose parent, guardian, or instructor has had any financial transaction in connection with the sale, lease, board, or training of a horse with the Judge, unless the sale was made and fully concluded at public auction; and*
  - m. *A rider that has been instructed, coached, or tutored with or without pay by the Judge;*
    - i. *The conducting of clinics or assistance in group activities will not be considered as instruction, coaching, or tutoring (See GR107).*
6. *For purposes of this rule, the following are considered employers: any individuals, corporations, partnerships, foundations, trusts or non-profit organizations and shareholders owning five or more percent of the stock of any corporation which employs the Judge or a member of the Judge’s family, and any officers, directors, or partners of any corporation or partnership and officers, directors, or trustees of any trust or foundation or nonprofit organization which employs the Judge or a member of the Judge’s family. The hiring of a Judge to officiate at Licensed Competitions shall not constitute employment for purposes of this rule.*
7. *Catch Riders and Independent Service Providers (defined below) are not employees for the purposes of this rule.*
  - a. *Catch Rider: An individual who is engaged, for remuneration or not, exclusively to compete, including any warm-up schooling for that immediate competition, a horse(s) owned by another with whom they have no current business relationship. A catch rider has no influence regarding the ongoing competition schedule, management, schooling, exercising, training, care, custody, or control of the horse.*
  - b. *Independent Service Provider: An individual who performs a service(s) for another and the payer has the right to control or direct only the result of the work and what work will be done. The Independent service provider controls the details as to how the work is performed.*

Refer solely to GR1304.16 for rules pertaining to showing under Judges in the Reining Division. Refer solely to

GR1304.21-26 for regulations governing showing under Hunter/Jumper/Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Judges and Category 1 Stewards. GR1304.1-20 shall not apply. See also GR1039, GR1040, GR1041, and GR107. Refer to GR1304.19 for rules pertaining to competing under Organizing Committees, Officials: Stewards, Ground Jurors, Veterinary Judges and Technical Delegates in the Endurance Division. See also GR1040 for restrictions on Judges.

1. ~~An exhibitor, coach, or trainer may not serve as a Judge, steward or technical delegate at any competition in which he/she exhibits, whether or not the classes are conducted under Federation rules. See also GR1040.1. A licensed Judge may officiate at the special competition, provided he/she is not or does not have a client participating in the special competition.~~
2. ~~No member of a Judge's family, nor any cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, or member of a Judge's household nor any of the Judge's clients, employers or employees or employers of a member of the Judge's family may compete as trainer, coach, exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, owner, lessor or lessee in any Division, or Dressage class unless the relationship is terminated 30 days prior to the competition. For purposes of this rule included as employers are any individuals, corporations, partnerships, foundations, trusts or non-profit organizations and shareholders owning five or more percent of the stock of any corporation which employs the Judge or a member of the Judge's family, and any officers, directors and partners of any corporation or partnership and officers, directors or trustees of any trust or foundation or non profit organization which employs the Judge or a member of the Judge's family. The hiring of a Judge to officiate at Licensed Competitions shall not constitute employment for purposes of this rule. Exception:
  - a. ~~For the Arabian division, the aforementioned may compete in sections, which the Judge is not officiating.~~~~
3. ~~No Judge's trainer nor any of the Judge's trainer's clients may compete as trainer, coach, exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, owner, lessor or lessee in any Division or Dressage class unless the relationship is terminated 30 days prior to the competition. Exception:
  - a. ~~For the Arabian division, the aforementioned may compete in sections, which the Judge is not officiating.~~~~
4. ~~No horses trained by a member of the Judge's family may compete in any division or Dressage class unless the client/trainer relationship is terminated 30 days prior to the competition. Stud fees, retiree board and broodmare board excluded. Exception:
  - a. ~~American Saddlebred and Hackney classes where requirements that nominations or qualifying be accomplished in advance of the competition (i.e. Futurities, Sweepstakes, Classics, etc.), a Judge may be substituted in that class for the officially appointed Judge who has a conflict. Such substitution shall not affect the restrictions referred to in GR1304.2-4 on the substituted Judge.~~
  - b. ~~For the Arabian division, the aforementioned may compete in a section, which the Judge is not officiating.~~~~
5. ~~No horse that has been sold (American Saddlebred division or leased) by a Judge or by his/her employer within a period of 90 days (Morgan and Paso Fino 30 days) prior to the competition may be shown before that Judge.~~
6. ~~No horse that has been trained by a Judge within the period of 30 days (American Saddlebred, Hackney and Roadster Divisions, 90 days) prior to the competition may be shown before that Judge.~~
7. ~~No one may show before a Judge who has received or has contracted to receive any remuneration for the sale, purchase or lease of any horse to or from, or for the account of the exhibitor within a period of 30 days (Welsh Division 90 days) prior to the competition unless the sale or purchase has been made and fully consummated at public auction.~~
8. ~~No one may show before a Judge who boards, shows or trains any horse under the exhibitor's ownership or lease, within a period of 30 days prior to the competition. Stud fees, retiree board and broodmare board excluded.~~
9. ~~No one may show before a Judge who has remunerated the exhibitor for the board or training of any horse for competition purposes within a period of 30 days prior to the competition. Stud fees, retiree board and broodmare board excluded.~~
10. ~~No one may show before a Judge from whom he has leased a horse unless the lease terminated 90 days (Morgan, Paso Fino 30 days) prior to the competition.~~
11. ~~No rider may compete in an Equitation class before a Judge with whom his or her parent, guardian or~~

instructor has had any financial transaction in connection with the sale, lease, board or training of a horse within 30 days of the competition unless the sale or purchase has been made at public auction.

- ~~12. No rider may compete in an Equitation, Dressage or Western Dressage class before a Judge by whom he has been instructed, coached or tutored with or without pay within 30 days of the first day of the competition. The conducting of clinics or assistance in group activities such as Pony Clubs, Saddle Seat Young Rider Team and/or Saddle Seat World Cup Team, unless private instruction is given, will not be considered as instruction, coaching or tutoring. Exception: Carriage Pleasure Driving—A Judge may officiate over entries (competitors and/or animals) who attended group clinics at the competition if the clinic is open to all competitors and animals entered, the clinic is advertised and available to all possible entrants, and during the clinic the Judge does not drive any animal that is entered in the competition.~~
- ~~6. 13. No one shall approach a Judge regarding a decision unless he first obtains permission from the Show Committee, Competition Management, Steward or Technical Delegate who shall arrange an appointment with the Judge at a proper time and place. **The Steward or Technical Delegate shall be present for the meeting.** No exhibitor has the right to inspect the Judge's cards without the Judge's permission.~~
- ~~14. No member of a steward or technical delegate's family, nor any cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, or member of a steward or technical delegate's household, nor any of the steward or technical delegate's clients may take part as a trainer, coach, lessor, lessee, exhibitor, rider, driver, handler or vaulter at a competition where the steward or technical delegate is officiating. In addition, the trainer or coach of a Steward or Technical Delegate, or an individual from whom the Steward or Technical Delegate has purchased or leased a horse within 30 days, may not participate (as rider, driver, owner, trainer or coach) at a competition where the Steward or Technical Delegate is officiating. Technical Delegates and Stewards may not officiate unless the client, trainer or coach relationship is terminated at least 30 days prior to the competition.~~
- ~~7. 15. If a horse or person is presented to a Judge that the Judge knows is ineligible to compete under these rules, the Judge may advise the ring steward that **they** he/she believe the entry to be ineligible and request that the entry be excused, or the Judge may proceed to Judge the entry and report the alleged rule violation to the Federation. If a Judge has any doubt as to the eligibility of any entry, **they** he/she should Judge the entry and report the alleged rule violation to the Federation.~~
- ~~16. In the Reining Horse division, a horse may not be shown under a Judge if that Judge has been owner, trainer or agent of that horse within the previous 90 days, or if said horse is ridden by a member of his/her family or by an employee of said Judge. If such a horse is entered in a competition, its entry fee shall be refunded and it is not to be exhibited. A Judge may not show to another Judge whom he/she has Judged or Judged with within five days nor may he/she Judge another Judge under whom he/she has shown or Judged with within five days. Volunteer USA Reining approved Judges utilized for equipment inspection are excluded from the five day requirement.~~
- ~~17. Competition Restrictions on Judges:
  - ~~a. A Judge may not be an owner of any interest in a horse (including but not limited to syndicate and partnership shares).~~
  - ~~b. A Judge may not be a trainer, coach, exhibitor, rider, driver, halter handler, steward, technical delegate, lessor, lessee or manager at any Federation Licensed Competition at which he/she is officiating, including unrated classes. Exception:~~
  - ~~c. in the Eventing division and in the Dressage division, except for Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes, horses may be shown Hors de Concours in classes where the owner is not officiating. (See GR1040.1)~~~~
- ~~8. **Sixty days prior to the first day of a competition through thirty days after the last competition day, no horse or rider that has been trained by a Judge, or a Judge's employee or agent, may show before that Judge officiating at any of the following competitions:**
  - ~~a. USEF Junior Hunter National Championship~~
  - ~~b. USEF Pony Hunter National Championship~~
  - ~~c. USEF Hunter Seat Medal Final~~
  - ~~d. USEF Pony Medal Final~~
  - ~~e. USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals~~
  - ~~f. ASPCA Maclay Final~~~~

**g. Washington International Horse Show Equitation Final**

- ~~18. A steward or technical delegate cannot own or operate any business (i.e. tack shop, braiding business, etc.) at the same competition where he/she is officiating.~~
19. In the Endurance Division, the other subdivisions in this Rule are applicable unless they conflict or create an ambiguity when read in conjunction with this subdivision. In that case and at all times involving competing within the Endurance Division, the following rule applies:
- ~~a. The Veterinary Panel may not examine horses in competition in which he/she has an ownership interest, are owned by his/her nuclear family members or his/her spouse or children, are owned by his/her cohabitants or significant others or other persons within his/her household, or are owned by a client from whom he/she received 10% or more of his/her gross income or income benefit in the current or prior year or for whom he/she performed work on this horse in the past 30 days;~~
  - ~~b. A Technical Delegate, Ground Juror or Steward may not involve him/herself in objections, complaints or other formal disputes involving horses in which he/she has an ownership interest or which are owned under any of the other examples listed above for Veterinary Panel;~~
  - ~~c. Extended or nuclear family or household cohabitants or significant others or horses owned by members of the event Organizing Committee will be allowed to compete in said event, but such relationships should be disclosed in posted announcements at the event or orally at the pre-ride briefing; and,~~
  - ~~d. These exceptions do not inhibit or prevent a competitor or other authorized person from asserting such conflict of interest or other issues relating to bias for scrutiny and consideration at the event. However, any such complaint or objection must be raised pursuant to applicable rules or regulations for the event and in a timely manner or they are deemed waived. This Rule is intended to set parameters to allow a Veterinary Panel or Steward perform his/her duties at rides and should be construed in all cases to provide that flexibility.~~
  - ~~e. Endurance Stewards are subject to GR1304.25, GR1039, and GR1041.~~
20. The provisions of sections ~~.2~~ ~~.19~~ of this rule notwithstanding, An Eventing Judge or Combined Driving Judge may officiate on the Ground Jury of an Eventing or Combined Driving competition when a competitor(s) or horse(s) **relationship** listed in **GR1304.54** those sections is/are entered, **competes at the same competition**, under the following restrictions:
- a. The Judge must notify the Technical Delegate and the Organizer of the conflict prior to the start of competition. If the conflict is discovered after the start of competition the competitor(s) **individual(s)** or horse(s) must either withdraw from competition or participate Hors de Concours (H.C.).
  - b. The Judge may not Judge any of the **phases**/tests for the Section in which the affected competitor **individual(s)** or horse(s) are competing. For decisions regarding disqualification, elimination, or penalties, the Technical Delegate will assume the role of the Ground Jury.
  - c. If an Inquiry or Protest is lodged from the Section in which the affected competitor **individual(s)** or horse(s) is/are competing, the Judge must excuse himself **themselves** from the process and the Technical Delegate will assume the role of the Ground Jury.
  - d. There are no restrictions on a Judge if a competitor(s) **individual(s)** or horse(s) listed in GR1304.52–22 participates in the Competition H.C.
21. When you are officiating as a Judge in the Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation divisions:
- ~~a. You may not be a competitor, coach, trainer, rider, handler, lessor, lessee, or manager at the same competition. However, you may compete as a rider in jumper classes that you are not judging.~~
  - ~~b. You may not have any ownership interest in a horse (including but not limited to syndicate and partnership shares) competing in a class in which you are officiating in the Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Divisions including unrated classes. However, such horse may compete in Jumper classes at the same competition.~~
  - ~~c. A member of your family may compete in Jumper classes at the same competition.~~
22. When you are officiating as a Judge in the Hunter or Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation divisions, none of the following may compete as a trainer, coach, competitor, rider, owner, handler, lessor or lessee in either the Hunter or the Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation divisions in a class in which you are officiating at that

competition, unless the relationship is terminated, or the transaction is completed, at least 30 days prior to the competition:

- a.— A member of your family.
- b.— A member of your household or housemate.
- c.— A cohabitant, companion, or domestic partner.
- d.— An employee. Catch Riders and Independent Service Providers (defined below) are not employees for purposes of this rule.
  - 1.— Catch Rider: An individual who is engaged, for remuneration or not, exclusively to compete, including any warm-up schooling for that immediate competition, a horse(s) owned by another with whom they have no current business relationship. A catch rider has no influence regarding the ongoing competition schedule, management, schooling, exercising, training, care, custody or control of the horse.
  - 2.— Independent Service Provider: An individual who performs a service(s) for another and the payer has the right to control or direct only the result of the work and what will be done and how it will be done. The Independent service provider controls the details as to how the service is performed.
- e.— A client.
- f.— Your trainer.
- g.— A client of your trainer.
- h.— An entity that employs you or a member of your family, which includes individuals, corporations, partnerships, foundations, trusts, non-profit organizations, and any shareholder owning five or more percent of the stock, if any.
- i.— A horse trained or shown by you or by a member of your family.
- j.— A horse sold by you or by your employer.

23. When you are officiating as a Judge in the Jumper division at a competition:

- a.— No member of your family may compete in a Jumper class you are judging. However, said family member may compete in jumper classes you are not judging, as well as in the Hunter and Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Divisions.
- b.— No horse in which you have any ownership interest may compete in a Jumper class you are judging. However, said horse may compete in jumper classes you are not judging, as well as in the Hunter and Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Divisions.
- c.— You may compete as a rider in jumper classes of \$25,000 or more that you are not judging.

24. When you are officiating as a Hunter or Hunter Seat Equitation Judge at a “special” competition as described in GR313, that is also held in conjunction with a licensed competition:

- a.— You may not compete as a competitor, coach, or trainer in the “special” competition. However, you may compete as a competitor, coach, or trainer in the non-special part of the competition.
- b.— You may not have a client compete in the “special” competition. However, you may have a client compete in the non-special part of the competition.

25. When you are officiating as a Category 1 (C1) Steward at a competition:

- a.— You may not be a competitor, coach, rider, handler, lessor, lessee, trainer, or manager at the same competition.
- b.— You cannot own or operate any business (i.e. tack shop, braiding business, etc.) at the same competition.
- c.— None of the following may compete as a trainer, coach, competitor, rider, owner, handler, lessor or lessee at that competition, unless the relationship is terminated at least 30 days prior to the competition:
  - d.— A member of your family.
  - e.— A member of your household or housemate.
  - f.— A cohabitant, companion, or domestic partner.
  - g.— An employee.
  - h.— A client.

- i. ~~Your trainer.~~
- j. ~~A client of your trainer.~~
- k. ~~An entity that employs you or a member of your family, which includes individuals, corporations, partnerships, foundations, trusts, non-profit organizations, and any shareholder owning five or more percent of the stock, if any.~~
- l. ~~A horse trained by you or by a member of your family.~~
- m. ~~A horse sold by you or by your employer.~~
- n. ~~A person for whom you have or are scheduled to receive any remuneration involving a horse sale, purchase, (unless at public auction), lease, or board (stud fees, retiree or broodmare board excluded).~~

~~26. Other Hunter/Jumper Regulations and Restrictions:~~

- a. ~~If a Judge believes (but is not certain) that a horse or person presented to him is ineligible to compete under these rules, the entry should be Judged, an investigation should occur and, if substantiated, the Judge should report the alleged rule violation to the Federation.~~
- b. ~~Sixty days prior to the first day of a competition through 30 days after the last competition day, no horse or rider that has been trained by a Judge or a Judge's employee or agent may show before a Judge officiating at any of the following competitions:~~
  - 1. ~~National Junior Hunter Finals.~~
  - 2. ~~National Pony Hunter Finals.~~
  - 3. ~~All USEF Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Medal Finals (USEF Jr. Medal, ASPCA, USEF Pony)~~
  - 4. ~~USEF Show Jumping Talent Search Finals.~~
  - 5. ~~Washington International Horse Show Equitation.~~
- c. ~~No one shall approach a Judge with regard to a decision unless he first obtains permission from the Steward, who shall arrange an appointment to meet with the Judge at a proper time and place. The Steward shall be present for the meeting.~~
- d. ~~No competitor has the right to inspect a Judge's card without the Judge's permission.~~
- e. ~~No rider may compete in an equitation class before a Judge by whom he has been instructed, coached, or tutored (with or without pay) within 30 days of the competition. Conducting clinics or assistance in group activities such as Pony Clubs, unless private instruction is given, will not be considered as instruction, coaching, or tutoring.~~
- f. ~~No rider may compete in an Equitation class before a Judge with whom his parent, guardian, or instructor has had any financial transaction in connection with the sale, lease, board, or training of a horse within 30 days of the competition unless the sale or purchase was made at public auction.~~
- g. ~~The hiring of a Judge to officiate does not constitute employment under this rule.~~

**9. The following are not permitted to compete at the same competition as a Steward or Technical Delegate if there is an ongoing relationship between the individual competing and the Steward or Technical Delegate (see GR1304.4 for definition of ongoing relationship):**

- a. **A Steward or Technical Delegate's family member, cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, or member of a Steward or Technical Delegate's household;**
- b. **A Steward or Technical Delegate's client;**
- c. **A Steward or Technical Delegate's employee;**
- d. **A Steward or Technical Delegate's trainer or coach;**
- e. **Any individual that has purchased or leased a horse from the Steward or Technical Delegate, unless the purchase has been made and fully concluded at public auction;**
- f. **A horse owned by the Steward or Technical Delegate (including but not limited to syndicate and partnership shares);**
- g. **A horse trained by the Steward or Technical Delegate;**
- h. **A horse sold by the Steward or Technical Delegate or by the Steward or Technical Delegate's employer, unless the sale has been made and fully concluded at public auction.**

**10. The following are not permitted to compete at the same competition as a Federation Endurance Veterinarian:**

- a. **A horse that is owned by the veterinarian or veterinarian's family member, cohabitant, companion,**

**domestic partner, housemate, or member of the veterinarian's household (including but not limited to syndicate and partnership shares); and**

- b. The above relationships are permitted if the relationship has been terminated at least 30 days prior to the start date of the competition.**

#### GR107 Clients

1. As used in GR1304, GR1006 and GR1041, "client" and "clients" of a Judge, Steward, or Technical Delegate shall include:

- a. Any person who has received **or is going to receive**, or who has a member of his or her family who has received **or is going to receive**, horse training or instruction in riding, driving, **vaulting**, or showing in hand or in halter from the Judge, Steward, or Technical Delegate, or from said official's employee, whether or not remuneration has been given or received **or is going to receive**, and whether or not such training or instruction took place at a Licensed Competition;
  - b. Any person whose relationship has not been terminated at least thirty (30) days prior to the start of a competition;**
  - c. Any persons who pay horse board (excluding stud fees and broodmare board) to the Judge, Steward, or Technical Delegate, or to a member of his or her family; and
  - d. Any persons entered in a Licensed Competition as rider, driver, **vaulter**, handler, exhibitor, owner or lessee, and members of the family of the foregoing, on an entry blank signed in any capacity by the Judge, Steward or Technical Delegate or his or her agent, employee or member of his or her family, whether or not remuneration has been given or received.
2. The conducting of clinics or assistance in group activities such as Pony Clubs, unless private instruction is given, will not be considered as instruction, coaching, or tutoring. **Private instruction may be given in clinic settings, so long as the relationship between clinician and participant is limited to the clinic and will not extend beyond the clinic so as to form a Trainer/Client relationship**

- a. For purposes of these rules, a "clinic" is an equestrian educational opportunity between a professional and a rider/driver/vaulter/handler where the relationship between the clinician and the participant is limited in time to the clinic and is not ongoing, outside of future clinic participation, whether the education is provided in a group or individual setting.**
- b. Exception: Individuals competing in a Federation licensed dressage competition are not permitted to participate in a clinic (group or private) within 30 days prior to a competition where the judge/clinician is officiating a class where the clinic participate competes.**

#### GR1039 Conflicts of Interest and Restrictions – Judges (See also GR107 and GR1304)

- ~~1. A Judge may not be an owner of any interest in a horse (including but not limited to syndicate and partnership shares), nor may he be an exhibitor, trainer, coach, lessor, lessee, rider, driver, halter handler, Steward, Technical Delegate, or manager, nor may he be a family member of a competition licensee, Steward, Technical Delegate or manager at any Federation Licensed Competition at which he is officiating, including unrated classes. Exceptions: In the Eventing division and in the Dressage division, except for Dressage Sport Horse Breeding classes, horses may be shown Hors de Concours in classes where the owner is not officiating See also GR1304.17-20. For Hunter and Hunter/Jumping Seat Equitation Judges, please see GR1304.21-26. For Arabian Judges, please see GR1304.2-4.~~

**2. The following is prohibited for a Judge:**

- a. Be an owner of any interest in a horse (including but not limited to syndicate and partnership shares) in a class where they are officiating;**
- b. Be an exhibitor, trainer, coach, lessor, lessee, rider, driver, handler, Steward, Technical Delegate, Competition Secretary, or Competition Manager at a competition where they are officiating, including unrated classes; or**
- c. Be a family member of a competition licensee, Steward, Technical Delegate, or Competition Manager.**

#### GR1040 Conflicts of Interest and Restrictions - Stewards and Technical Delegates (See also GR107 and GR1304)

1. The following persons at a given competition are ineligible to serve as Stewards and Technical Delegates: the president, chairman, other Show Committee officers, competition secretary, manager or other competition officials or employees, Judges, trainers, or exhibitors at that competition.
2. No Steward or Technical Delegate may officiate in any competition in which any member of his family or any of his clients is judging.
3. No Steward or Technical Delegate may officiate at a competition if he or any member of his family has any relationship with the competition which constitutes a conflict of interest with the Steward's or Technical Delegate's duties under these rules. No member of the Steward's or Technical Delegate's family (as defined in GR123) may serve as a Federation Licensed Official, Competition Licensee, Competition Manager or Competition Secretary at the competition where the steward or technical delegate is officiating.
4. No member of a Steward's or Technical Delegate's family, nor any of the Steward's or Technical Delegate's clients, may take part as a trainer, coach, lessor, lessee, exhibitor, rider, driver, handler or vaulter at a competition where the Steward or Technical Delegate is officiating, including unrated classes.
5. In addition to the above restrictions, the following persons may not serve as the Technical Delegate at an Eventing Competition, Vaulting Competition or Dressage competition:
  - a. A close relative of a competitor or owner of a horse entered in the competition.
  - b. Chefs d'Equipe whose teams are entered in the competition.
  - c. Instructors or trainers of competitors entered in the competition. A member of the Ground Jury, the course designer, a Dressage or Jumping Judge at the event.
  - d. The Director (Manager) of the competition or a member of the Director's family.

**2. The following is prohibited for a Steward or Technical Delegate:**

- a. **Officiate at a competition where the Steward or Technical Delegate's family, cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, member of a Steward or Technical Delegate's household, or client is acting as a Judge, trainer, coach, lessor, lessee, exhibitor, rider, driver, handler, or vaulter; or**
- b. **Officiate at a competition where the Steward or Technical Delegate's family, cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, or member of a Steward or Technical Delegate's household is serving as a Federation Licensed Official, Competition Licensee, Competition Manager, or Competition Secretary.**

GR1202 **Competition Manager**

**4. The following is prohibited for a Competition Manager:**

- a. A manager cannot serve **Act** as a Judge, Steward, or Technical Delegate, or Certified Schooling Supervisor of his **for their** own competition.
- b. **Act as a Competition Manager where the** A member of a **Competition Manager's family member, cohabitant, companion, domestic partner, housemate, or member of a Competition Manager's household cannot** officiates as a Judge, Steward, or Technical Delegate, or Certified Schooling Supervisor at said manager's competition.

CP201 Judges and Technical Delegates

1. Judges

- a. A Federation Carriage Pleasure Driving Judge must officiate at Federation Licensed Pleasure Driving Competitions. For Guest Card eligibility and restrictions, see GR1005.9
- b. A Judge may not serve as the Course Designer of the same event. For additional restrictions, refer to GR1304 and GR1040.
- c. For Driven Dressage, refer to CP524; for Coaching, refer to CP301

2. Technical Delegates (See also GR1034)

- a. A Carriage Pleasure Driving Technical Delegate must officiate at Federation-licensed open pleasure (carriage) driving competitions and for Federation Regular Member competitions that have more than 15 carriage driving classes.
  1. For additional restrictions, refer to GR1304.
  - a. A Technical Delegate shall not officiate at any competition in which a member of his family, a

person living under the same roof, a person with whom the Judge has a financial relationship, clients or trainers are competing unless and emergency necessitates the replacement of the designated Technical Delegate.

#### DC968 Conflict of Interest

Please refer to General Rules 1038, 1039, and 1040, and **GR1304**. Conflicts of Interest and Restrictions for Licensed Officials, Judges, Stewards or Technical Delegates.

~~1. The following persons may not be Officials at an event:~~

~~1.1 Athletes and Owners of Horses taking part in the event.~~

~~1.2 Regular Trainers means: training a Horse/ Athlete for more than six days in the six month period before an Event, or any training during a period of three months before an Event.~~

~~1.3 Close relatives of Owners, Athletes, or Officials.~~

~~1.4 Persons having a financial or personal interest in a Horse or Athlete taking part in a Competition.~~

~~1.5 The Manager of an event, or members of the Manager's family or household, the Technical Delegate, Course Designer or a member of the Appeals Committee (if one exists), or any other O.C. official associated with the event may not serve on the Ground Jury. A TD at an event may not assume the duties of a Judge or CD.~~

#### DC971 Technical Delegate

[...]

~~3. Conflict of Interest~~

See FEI GRs Article 158 and DC968 of these Driving Rules.

#### DC972 Course Designers

[...]

~~4. Conflict of Interest~~

See DC968 of these Driving Rules.

#### DC973 Stewards

~~3. Conflict of Interest~~

See DC 984 of these Driving Rules.

#### EV156 Ground Jury Qualifications and Duties

1. Qualifications

~~b. The following individuals may not serve on the Ground Jury for a particular division:~~

~~1. The owner, or Family of the Owner, of a Horse entered in that division;~~

~~2. An Athlete, or Family of an Athlete, entered in that division;~~

~~3. Chefs d'Equipe whose teams are entered in that division;~~

~~4. Trainers or Coaches of Athletes entered in that division.~~

~~c. The following are barred from serving on the Ground Jury:~~

~~1. The Technical Delegate or the Course Designer of the Event;~~

~~2. The Organizer of the Event, or a member of the Organizer's Family.~~

~~3. Family of the Cross Country Course Designer or the Eventing Jumper Course Designer. See GR123.~~

~~bd. For additional restrictions, refer to GR1304, GR10, Sub-chapters 10-C and 10-H.~~

#### EV157 Additional Judges

2. Additional Judges are subject to the same restrictions as Ground Jury member, see EV156.1**eb**, and EV156.1**bd**. However, if an Eventing Course Designer and Show Jumping Course Designer are different individuals, the Show Jumping Course Designer may also serve as an additional Judge if they are licensed to do so.

3. Guest Cards (see GR1005).

4. The provisions of GR1304 notwithstanding, additional Judges may officiate at an Event provided that they do not Judge any Athlete(s) or Horse(s) listed in sections .2 .18 of that rule. There are no restrictions on a Judge if a Athlete(s)

~~or Horses(s) listed in GR1304.2 .18 participates in the Event HC.~~

## EV158 Technical Delegate Qualifications and Duties

### 1. QUALIFICATIONS.

- a. The Technical Delegate must be a Federation licensed Eventing Technical Delegate.
- b. ~~The following individuals may not serve as the Technical Delegate at an Event:~~
  - ~~1. The owner, or Family of the Owner, of a Horse entered in the Event;~~
  - ~~2. An Athlete, or Family of an Athlete, entered in the Event;~~
  - ~~3. The Course Designer, or Family of the Athlete for the Event;~~
  - ~~4. Chefs d'Equipe whose teams are entered in the competition;~~
  - ~~5. Trainers or Coaches of Athletes entered in the Event;~~
  - ~~6. A Ground Jury member, or a Dressage or Show Jumping Judge at the Event;~~
  - ~~7. The Organizer of the Event, or a member of the Organizer's Family.~~
- c. For additional restrictions, refer to GR1304, Chapter GR10, Subchapters 10-C and 10-H.