

International Federation of Equestrian Tourism



The T.R.E.C.

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The T.R.E.C. competition

T.R.E.C. (Equestrian Trail Riding and Trekking Techniques Competition), coming to you from France, is neither endurance riding, nor trekking, nor hunter trials or nor three day event ...

PRESENTATION

A T.R.E.C. competition comprises various equestrian disciplines grouped into three phases taking place over two days. The phases are ridden on the same horse which will have to pass several vets inspections along the way. The competition aims to reward horse-rider combinations that successfully manage to tackle a range of obstacles rather than their success at any one particular obstacle. This is a competition in which outdoor training and riding school flat-work go hand in hand.

In T.R.E.C. competitions horses are also led in hand, they go under certain obstacles, they walk down into ditches instead of jumping them and they get their hooves wet (and sometimes more) in rivers.

AN OFFICIAL COMPETITION THAT UNITES

Since the start of the 1990's, T.R.E.C. competitions have become a uniting force for the F.I.T.E.. Each year, a World Championships is organised by one of the National Equestrian Tourism Organisations (NETO's) affiliated to the F.I.T.E. In 1997, this event will very probably develop into a world championship to include competitors from America, Africa and elsewhere alongside riders from Europe.

THE T.R.E.C. HORSE

He must be aged at least five years old and be in good physical condition, calm, attentive and prove himself to be on the same wavelength as his rider.

THE T.R.E.C. RIDER

T.R.E.C. riders must be aged at least sixteen years old, like outdoor riding, want to master map reading and learn horsemanship in any circumstances. Proper dress is required, although no official turnout is imposed.

THE THREE T.R.E.C. PHASES

THE P.O.R. PHASE

The Optimum Speed and Orienteering Course

A compass, a map and a stop-watch are the tools of the trade for this phase. Competitors will try to carefully follow the route along a 50 to 60 km ride that they have had twenty minutes to get to know. Check-points (competitors are unaware of their positions) are spread along the whole route. These check-points serve to check competitors' times, that they are taking the right route and that their horse is in good physical condition (vets inspection). They will also inform riders of the optimum speed set for the next stage of the course (between 6 and 12 km/h). Good map-reading ability allows the rider to spare his horse and control his speed.

Penalties in this phase are incurred for straying from the route and for the time difference with the optimum.

THE P.T.V. PHASE: Cross Country Trials Course

This course is around 5 km long and has to be covered in a set time (around 12 km/h). It comprises a host of natural or simulated obstacles (tree trunk, ditch, footbridge crossing, hedge, water crossing, gate, immobility, step-up, etc.). Judges are looking more for effectiveness, forwardness and style of the couple rather than the horse's performances. Whilst the maximum size of the obstacles remains reasonable, certain of them still require real physical effort.

With this phase following on the day after the P.O.R. phase, it also enables an assessment of the horse's ability to recover from sustained and prolonged effort.

MA : Control of Paces

This phase is intended to display the horse's paces. An approximately 2 m wide corridor is marked out in which the horse must cover a distance of 150 m. He does this firstly at a steady, regular canter (266 m/minute), then as quickly as possible at walk (132 m/minute). Of course, the horse must stay in the corridor otherwise he loses all his points !

Penalty points in this phase are calculated on the time, whether the competitor stays in the corridor and whether they break paces.

INTERNATIONAL T.R.E.C. RULES

**T.R.E.C. = Equestrian Trail Riding and
Trekking Techniques Competition**

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INTERNATIONAL T.R.E.C. RULES (World TREC Championships)

**T.R.E.C. = Equestrian Trail Riding and
Trekking Techniques Competition**

I/ PRESENTATION OF THE COMPETITION

The Equestrian Trail Riding and Trekking Techniques Competition (or TREC) Championships aim to find the best national team of the year in terms of various applications of equestrian trekking and trail riding techniques. They also serve to discern a World Champion title.

They are the culmination of a dedicated effort in terms of technical preparation, fitness training and dressage that is crowned by selection for the national team.

It is a combined event that aims to reward any horse-rider combination performing well over a whole range of obstacles rather than their success in any one particular discipline.

Each year they are organised by a National Equestrian Tourism Organisation (NETO) designated by the F.I.T.E.

N.B. All other TREC competitions, organised within the FITE framework (individual or team championship on each continent – OPEN international contests organised by one or several NETO's) must be in compliance with international regulations.

However, articles 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 will be modified by organisers according to the event, with the FITE's written agreement.

Only events which are included in the FITE calendar are considered as international TREC events.

Article 01. The phases :

- A) An Optimum Speed and Orienteering Course (P.O.R.) marked out of 240 points
- B) A timed Cross Country Trials Course (P.T.V.) involving

16 natural or simulated obstacles marked out of	160 points
C) A test to determine the rider's control of his horse's paces (M.A.) marked out of	60 points
	=====
Maximum total possible from all the phases	460 points

Article 02. Championship officials proposed by the FITE sports commission are :

1. The **ground jury** comprising :
 - a) a president appointed by the FITE Bureau
 - b) two judges, including one foreign judge (both FITE-approved international TREC judges proposed by the Organising Committee)
 - c) the FITE Technical Delegate, in a consultative role

2. The **appeal jury** comprising :
 - a) the FITE Sports Commission president
 - b) two judges, including one foreign judge (both FITE-approved international TREC judges proposed by the Organising Committee, other than those in the ground jury)
 - c) the FITE Technical Delegate, in a consultative role

3. the veterinary commission nominated by the Organising Committee

4. a certain number of chief course stewards nominated by the organising committee

5. the official time keeper from the country in which the championships are organised

- 6 the technical delegate designated by the FITE Bureau

Considering the specifications recommendations and to ensure that he is capable of carrying out his responsibilities, both in technical matters and in terms of general event organisation, the Technical Delegate undertakes to hold a site feasibility visit in liaison with the candidate NETO and their designated representative before the general assembly meeting called on to give the definitive go ahead on the application that they are presented.

With the FITE's official general assembly being held every year in September, at the World Trec Championships, the site feasibility visit for the site proposed for the following year must have taken place prior to this meeting.

The Technical Delegate's report is sent to the general secretary's office at least one month before the date of the general assembly in question.

The Technical Delegate reports on any possible difficulties encountered in accomplishing his mission to the general secretary's office.

He monitors the organisation during the championships and reports back to the ground jury president.

The decisions of the ground and the appeal jury and of the veterinary commission are taken by absolute majority, the president having the casting vote.

II - GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

Article 03. Teams

According to the timetable defined by the FITE, each National Equestrian Tourism Organisation (NETO) informs the Championships Organisation Committee :

- of their intention to take part at least 90 days before the championship.
- of its list of team members at least 15 days before the start of the championship : 6 riders of which 4 will make up the national team, the two remaining riders only competing as individuals.

The previous year's World Champion can enter in addition to this, in which case this person will only compete as an individual. If they wish to compete as part of the national team, they will be counted as part of the six member squad.

The organising NETO can enter an additional six individual competitors.

The chef d'equipes cannot change the line-up of national teams during the competition. The last chance to change it is during the meeting of chef d'equipes the evening before the start of the championship.

Horses participating in the championship must:

- be aged at least 6 years old (at least five years old in 2002);
- have the appropriate identification document
 - FEI passport or
 - national passport including a graphical representation of identification markings
- have an up to date vaccinations certificate in line with the host nation's legislation

The Organising Committee must inform the FITE and all NETO's likely to be participating in the Championship in good time (publication before the programme) in order to avoid any difficulties in complying with the above mentioned sanitary requirements and/or other national obligations.

Participants must be at least 16 year-old on the day of the first phase of the competition.

Article 04. The event

The phases take place over at least two days.

A record book will be given to each competitor. He will be obliged to present it to all the stewards.

All competitors will wear number vests, numbered according to a drawn order. The numbers will be attached so as to be visible on the rider's chest and back as well as on the headpiece of the horse's bridle. The starting order will follow the numbering of these vests.

Number vests will be attributed in the following manner :

- The draw for the starting order of the teams is made during the FITE's meeting or annual general meeting preceding the championship.
In the instance of absence or withdrawal by a NETO, numbers are shifted one position forwards (e.g. if n°5 withdraws, n°6 takes the number 5 etc.)
In the instance of new nations entering during the course of the year, these will start at the end, following those nations already drawn.
- Each chef d'equipe decides on the order in which his riders will compete.

Individual riders must compete after the last team member of the last team. The order in which individual competitors start is such that no two competitors from any one NETO start in succession (as far as possible).

THE STARTING ORDER AND THE TIMES FOR THE THREE PHASES ARE GIVEN TO THE TEAMS ON THE EVENING PRECEDING THE FIRST PHASE AT THE LATEST.

The starting order will be the same for the POR, the PTV and the MA phases.

Article 05. Marking

The method of marking each phase is described in each of their specific rules.

The team placings will be calculated on the basis of the sum of the points of the three best members of each team.

In no instance can the marks of a better placed individual rider be substituted for use in the team result.

The individual placings, in which the team members will also figure, will be announced separately.

The individual and team winners will be those having gained the highest points total over the three phases A + B + C. In the instance of equality, the result will be decided on the basis of the two most important phases (A + B)

If there is still absolute equality of the scores, it is phase A (POR) that will decide the winning individual or team.

Article 06. Elimination from the championship

- Retiring voluntarily from one of the phases eliminates that rider from the championship.
- Elimination for veterinary causes during one of the phases leads to elimination from the championship
Such elimination means that the competitor will be prohibited from taking part in the following phases.
- If a competitor, is unable to finish a phase, he may finish the rest of the competition and be placed

Any competitor who loses their record book or whose record book is unreadable is eliminated from the POR.

Also entailing elimination from the championship :

- any competitor whose horse has been definitively stopped by the veterinarian
- ANY COMPETITOR ASSISTED IN ROUTE FINDING DURING THE POR OR WHO COMMUNICATES THE ROUTE TO ANYONE WHATSOEVER
- any competitor found guilty of doping their horse in accordance with the current FEI (International Equestrian Federation) rules and with the annual guidelines of the FITE (International Federation of Equestrian Tourism).
- and competitor found guilty of using communication means likely to enable them to get in contact with other competitors or with anything or anybody outside of the competition to help

them to determine their position (e.g. mobile phones, GPS, etc.) – also see the last paragraph in the current article.

Any competitor who, for safety reasons, wants to keep a mobile phone (or any other means of communication for the same purpose (radio, walkie-talkie, etc.)) must declare it to the jury before leaving on the POR, when entering the map room. The device will then be sealed in a special package.

Penalties: Competitors opening the packaging and using their device for any reason whatsoever apart from reasons of safety (accident to themselves or another rider or serious accident of a horse) are eliminated from the individual championship and will be excluded from the rankings both as an individual and in the team event.

ANY COMPETITOR OPENING THE PACKAGING WITHOUT HAVING ANY VALID REASON IN TERMS OF SAFETY WILL CAUSE THE ELIMINATION OF THE ENTIRE NATIONAL DELEGATION THAT THEY BELONG TO (INDIVIDUALS AND NATIONAL TEAM)

Any competitor on the POR found to be in possession of a communication device (telephone, radio, etc.) which has not been declared to the jury, will be disqualified together with their whole national delegation (individuals and national team)

Article 07.1 Complaints

I. **The right to lodge a complaint concerning a competitor or a horse during a phase of the event or concerning the latter's placing or concerning the event's organisation or the event's proceedings, is exclusively reserved for competitors or chef d'equipe's.**

Only the chef d'equipe can lodge a complaint on their behalf, on behalf of the nETO they represent and/or on behalf of a competitor in their team.

II. Any complaint must be submitted in writing and accompanied by the sum of 50 Euros which is retained by the FITE in the instance of the complaint proving to be unsubstantiated.

III. No verbal complaints are admitted

IV. To be valid, any complaint must be submitted :

- a. before the start of the phase, if it concerns the organisation of a phase, the qualification of the competitors or the horses : to the ground jury president.
- b. at latest half an hour after the announcement-publication and presenting of the results of each phase and the definitive placings to the chef d'equipes. Only for the POR, this time is extended to half an hour after the start of the official veterinary inspection time prior to the MA.

ANY FORTUITOUS EVENTS OUTSIDE OF THE ORGANISERS CONTROL CANNOT BE SUBJECT TO A COMPLAINT

Article 7.2- appeals against ground jury decisions

The appeal jury can deal with appeals against ground jury decisions that it is informed of as provided for in article 7.1 and must make its decision within a reasonable timeframe which will not undermine the rest of the competition.

An appeal submission is not valid if it concerns:

- a. matters where the ground jury has to exercise its judgement during a phase
- b. the elimination of a horse for veterinary reasons
- c. instant elimination during a phase, as provided for in the present regulations,

Article 7.3 – Reports

The Chef d'equipés, officials and Organising Committee members must submit a report to the Ground Jury concerning any presumed acts of cruelty as regards to horses or other violations of the Articles and Regulations. The Ground Jury, having listened to the parties concerned can impose the following:

- a. an oral or written warning
- b. a 50 to 500 Euro fine
- c. disqualification from the current phase or from the rest of the competition

Article 08. Veterinary inspection

- a) The first veterinary inspection will take place before the start of the event, preferably the day before the championships. It shall in no instance be organised between the taking down of the route on the map and the start of the competitor on the POR.
- b) After the POR, the veterinary inspection will take place around thirty minutes after the competitor has returned to the starting area. It will take place in a specially ringed off area. The competitor may not be assisted whilst it takes place.
- c) The final vets inspection will take place before the control of paces phase.
- d) The Ground Jury and/or the Veterinary Commission can carry out random veterinary inspections at any place and any time during the three Championship phases.

III TACK, TURNOUT AND EQUIPMENT

Article 09. Turnout

Proper dress is required. A HAT MUST BE WORN. A protective hard hat must be worn with a chin strap (skull cap) for the Cross Country Trials Course. The ground jury reserves the right to stop competitors starting with inappropriate or ill-suited equipment.

Article 10. Tack

The horse's tack must be suited to the horse and to the phase being performed.
Side saddles are not authorised

All phases must be performed with the same tack (same bit, same saddle). The same saddle packs are required for the whole duration of the POR. The saddle packs may be set aside for the control of paces and the PTV phases.

Any sort of bit may be used. Hackamores are authorised.

Fixed martingales and other fixed reins are forbidden.

Tack may be inspected at any moment during the championship. Saddles will be stamped or marked by the jury before the first phase. They can be inspected throughout the championship at any moment.

Competitors must have all the necessary equipment for a day-long ride including equipment for night-riding :

- headcollar, lead rope,
- torch and reflective device for signalling behind (or a lamp with a white light and the front and a red lamp to the rear),
- for shod horses, a horse boot or an emergency farriery kit
- identification for the rider and horse (photocopies as appropriate in countries where this is allowed)
- first aid kit,

Equipment to carry this must be perfectly suited to the task (bags, saddle bags, pocketed numnahs). The jury can check at any point during the POR that the rider still has all the equipment listed at the start.

IV - SPECIFIC RULES

A) OPTIMUM SPEED AND ORIENTEERING COURSE (P.O.R.)

Article 11. Definition

The principle of the POR is to follow the set route of a given ride at predetermined speeds. This route must be long enough to assess the fitness of a horse, and can vary, depending on the relief of the country it passes through, between 40 and 60 km.

The POR can be organised over one or two routes, within a period of less than 24 hours.

The starting time of the first competitor must not be scheduled before day break in the organising country

The optimum time on the POR must be calculated to ensure that the last competitor can finish before sunset in the organising country.

All assistance to riders, except in dangerous circumstances, is strictly forbidden and results in elimination from the championships.

The route must include topographical difficulties creating route-finding problems and posing choices in terms of which route to take.

Article 12. Average speeds

The average speeds at which the riders must cover the course are predetermined.

Each competitor's score is calculated on the basis of the difference between the time it takes them to cover the course, measured at check-points that are not known about in advance, and an optimum time calculated according to the set speeds and the distance to be covered.

Article 13. The optimum speeds are :

- displayed on a notice board
- told to riders by the steward at the start of the rest time between each stage
- constant over the stage in question
- chosen by the organisers to be between 6 and 12 km/h (the organisers will ensure that no two successive stages have the same optimum speeds)

In mountain regions, with major changes in altitude or on steep slopes, the POR course designer may, with the Technical Delegate's agreement, have stages with speeds below 6 km/h

Article 14. The route

The route is shown to each competitor on 1/25,000 or 1/50,000 scale maps. They must mark the route onto the maps that are given to them. Certain stages can involve a route to be followed with a compass or simply the co-ordinates of a meeting point, which does not necessarily have to be a check-point.

The competitors will be isolated for twenty minutes prior to the start in order to mark down their route. They must be given maps of the required scale.

Article 15. Check-points

The competitors are unaware of the number and the position of the check points. The time taken for each stage of the ride is measured from when the start line and the finish line is crossed by the leading foreleg of the horse.

The start and finish lines at each check-point comprise two visible regulatory flags (red and white) of a maximum of 30 cm high.

In the case of several routes and multiple finish lines at a check-point, each of the finish lines must be marked with the regulatory flags. In this case, it is recommended to split the flags – which must be seen at all times by the stewards – at a distance from the finish line of no more than 100 metres.

The course designer can add route-checks. It is strongly advised to use route-checks when different competitors have different routes (odd numbers and even numbers) on part of a section between two normal check-points. The fact that competitors have passed these route-checks will be validated and penalised according to the scoring system defined in article 18 (30 penalty points when arriving by the wrong path or 50 penalty points for missing a route-check)

When within sight of a check-point, competitors must go directly to it by the shortest possible path, complying with the marked route, straight and without stopping.

Competitors should not be given any information about the phase by anyone whatsoever.

Horses that are normally unshod may compete unshod.

At the preliminary veterinary visit, it is noted whether the horse is shod or not.

A horse losing a shoe during the POR must be fitted with the appropriate protective footwear (a new shoe or a horse-boot) before being authorised to start. The time spent past the start time is counted in terms of penalties according to the scoring system given in article 18, last paragraph.

The POR check-points are closed by the course designer (IN THE CASE OF SOME COMPETITORS BEING VERY LATE) as appropriate after consulting with the Technical Delegate and with the formal agreement of the ground jury president.

See Art. 18-2

Article 16 Stopping at check-points

A halt of between 5 and 10 minutes must be imposed by the organisers at each check-point. This halt may be increased to 15 minutes should it include a veterinary inspection.

At these check-points, stewards must start competitors according to the start time interval set for map room departure.

The stewards have the power to change the halt time according to the circumstances, especially to avoid competitors meeting on the route. The time for which competitors halt is neutral and not taken account of in calculating scores.

Article 17. Veterinary inspection during the POR

At the start and at certain check-points and at the finish, the veterinarian checks the condition of the horses. He can decide if the horse needs to be held temporarily or definitively stopped and his decision is final.

There is at least one veterinary inspection on the course.

In the instance of the vet deciding that a horse should be temporarily held, the competitor is penalised by 1 point for each complete minute that they are held.

Article 18-1. Penalties

The phase is marked by deducting the number of penalty points from a total optimum of 240 points assigned at the start to each competitor, the final result can be negative.

Penalty points are incurred in accordance with the following scoring system:

- 1 point per minute of vet-imposed halt (see article 17 above)
- 1 point per full minute's difference with the optimum time (quicker or slower)
- 30 points for each competitor who, when within sight of a check-point, does not keep moving straight and forward on the shortest path towards the finish line.
- 30 points for arriving at a check-point by a route other than that intended
- 30 points for finishing with an open map on a compass-only section
- 50 points for any missed check-point. The two successive stages each side of the missed check-point are then considered as one stage to be completed at the speed set for the first of those stages.

- 2 points for each piece of missing equipment, up to a maximum of 10 points, for the observed absence of equipment listed in the second to last paragraph in article 10

For each stage of this phase, the score is calculated independently of the other stages. Because of this, penalties incurred in any one stage are definitively incurred and cannot be won back on the other stages.

Any rider not starting from a check-point (including the initial check-point) at the set time, is penalised by one point for each full minute that they are late (e.g. a rider leaving the check-point 4'59" late will be penalised 4 points.) The new start time is marked on the record book along with the penalty marks.

Article 18-2. Elimination

Any competitors who does not cross the finishing line is eliminated from the competition and from the championship.

Article 19. Accuracy of measurements

The distances measured on the map by the jury are considered to be final.

B) CONTROL OF PACES (M.A.)

Article 20. Aim

Showing that a trek / trail rider is capable of making his horse go quickly at walk and slowly at canter on a given path.

Stages

1. go as quickly as possible at walk along a 150 m long, reasonably level, marked corridor between 2 and 2.20 m wide.
2. go as slowly as possible at canter along the same 150 m corridor or one that is identical to it.

Article 21. Timed test

- 1) In both stages of this test, the horses are eliminated (marked 0) if they :
 - do not remain at the required gait
 - stop or go backwards on the course
 - put one foot or more out of the corridor during the test.

It is the inner border of the corridor that counts for this purpose.

- 2) The horse must cross the start and stop line at the required gait.
- 3) Competitors must do the canter test first
- 4) the test must be timed both electronically and manually

MARKING

MARK	WALK	CANTER
	<i>time in seconds</i>	<i>time in seconds</i>

		<i>and 10 ths of a second</i>
30	67 and less	33.8 or more
29	68	33.6
28	69	33.5
27	70	33.3
26	71	33.2
25	72	33
24	73	32.9
23	74	32.7
22	75	32.6
21	76	32.4

MARKING (cont.)

MARK	WALK <i>time in seconds</i>	CANTER <i>time in seconds and 10 ths of a second</i>
20	77	32.3
19	78	32.1
18	79	32
17	80	31.8
16	81	31.7
15	82	31.5
14	83	31.4
13	84	31.2
12	85	31.1
11	86	30.9
10	87	30.8
9	88	30.6
8	89	30.5
7	90	30.3
6	91	30.2
5	92	30
4	93	29.3
3	94	28.5
2	95	27.8
1	96	27
0	97	26.3

C) CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE (P.T.V.)

Article 22. Definition

This phase is intended to highlight the high degree of training required for a trekking/trail horse (confidence, courage, handiness, balance, sure-footedness) as well as the correctness and appropriateness of the rider's aids and his "experience" across country.

It is the rider-horse combination that is tested.

Article 23. The course

A marked route is followed of 2.5 to 5 km to be ridden in a set time of 12 to 14 km/h determined by the course designer. The course comprises 16 major, natural or simulated obstacles that can be encountered during the course of a trek or a trail ride.

Each obstacle is numbered from 1 to 16 (2 m high flags, red on the right and white on the left, with the number on a 20 cm x 20 cm board attached to the red flag's pole at a height of 1.50 m) and must be tackled by competitors in chronological order. Certain obstacles may include a penalty zone.

At least 6 (six) of these obstacles are spread at regular intervals along the course. The competitors are informed of the course's route.

The course designer can place one or several compulsory passage points marked by 2 m high flags, red on the right and white on the left. These compulsory passage points cannot be considered as obstacles as such within the scope of the present rules.

Article 24. Gaits

Competitors are free to choose the horse's gaits in between the obstacles. Sometimes a certain gait may be imposed by the jury at certain points on the course (for security reasons, considering weather conditions, for instance, the jury can punctually interfere). Gaits are imposed by rules as well.

Article 25. Walking the course

Competitors may walk the course.

The course is officially opened and closed for walking at times set by the jury.

The first competitor must start at least half an hour after the closing of the course for walking.

Article 26 Marking

Each obstacle is marked out of ten in accordance with the marking scheme that the judges are given (this making a total of 160 points for all the obstacles). Certain obstacles - at most 6 - can be outside of the timed section.

Time scoring

Penalty marks : the first minute started outside of the optimum time given by the jury incurs 5 penalty points, the second incurs 10 additional points, the third 15 additional points.

No more than 30 penalty points can be incurred for exceeding the optimum time.

The timer can only be stopped with the jury's approval.

The maximum time is decided by the jury following trial runs performed before the event.

Refusal : 3 refusals at an obstacle mean 0 points being awarded for the obstacle, but the competitor is not eliminated from the phase.

Error of course : elimination from the phase.

Missing out a compulsory passage point : elimination from the phase

Article 27. Start and finish

The start and finish lines must be flagged in an identical manner to the other obstacles on the course.

**TECHNICAL DATA SHEETS
FOR THE PTV**

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>WORLD TREC CHAMPIONSHIPS</u>	TECHNICAL DATA SHEET
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The route

The course route must be displayed from the first day of the competition and must clearly mention :

- the "Start and Finish" gates
- the distance
- the maximum time limit
- the obstacles (name and number)
- the method for tackling the obstacles (ridden or led)
- the gait (walk, trot, canter, or free-style)
- the penalty zones

The obstacles

Numbered from 1 to 16, they are placed between red flags (on the right) and white flags (on the left).

Horse and rider must both go between the flags which form an integral part of the obstacle in addition to its other features. (height, width, length, etc.)

The penalty zones

Certain obstacles may include penalty zones (3 to 5 m) before and after.

They aim to define and set the limits within which penalties will be incurred for a refusal or a fall.

Entering and exiting these zones (before and after the obstacle in question) can be in any direction in line with the course route.

The zones are marked as deemed appropriate (flags¹, plaster, sand, etc.) by the organisers.

¹ If flags are used, do not use red or white ones, nor ones that are the same colour as the route markers

Gaits

Generally speaking breaking stride or changing of gait or pace involves passing up or down from one gait to another or the stopping of a movement that is being performed.

This irregularity of gait is only penalised at the obstacle itself, in other words as soon as the horse's forefeet have crossed the line between two entry flags up until the two hind feet cross the line between the two exit flags.

In the instance of breaking of gait whilst an obstacle is being tackled involving several options (canter, trot, walk) in addition to the incurred penalty mark (for effectiveness), the lowest gait is taken into consideration for the style mark.

General marking principles

Marks will be accorded at each obstacle on a scale of 0 to 10. This mark will result from those for effectiveness and style.

Effectiveness and style are marked separately in accordance with the marking schemes below.

Effectiveness

This mark is determined by whether the obstacle is successfully negotiated or not according to one particular criterion :

- done / not done
- passed / not passed
- touched / not touched
- moved / not moved
- disobedience / no disobedience

And only according to this criterion

These marks will be as follows :

- 7 = 0 disobedience - foot didn't touch - didn't act - didn't break stride etc.
- 4 = 1 disobedience - foot touched once - acted once - broke stride once etc.
- 1 = 2 disobediences - 2 feet touched - acted twice - broke stride twice etc.
- 0 = 3 disobediences - 3 feet touched - acted three times - 3 breaking of stride etc.

This mark is to be put in box E on the score sheet

Style

The style mark will be added to or subtracted from the effectiveness mark. It will be given according to how the exercise is carried out in terms of one criteria :

- very good ... +3
- good ... +2
- quite good ...+1
- average ... 0
- poor ... -1
- bad ... -2

This mark is put in box S on the score sheet

Penalty marks

Negative marks incurred for obstacles negotiated with brutality or in a manner that is considered to be dangerous : -3

This mark is put in box P on the score sheet.

Overall mark

This is calculated : $E + S - P$

It cannot be less than 0

A fall (of horse or rider) within a penalty zone or at an obstacle itself results in a 0 score for effectiveness at that obstacle.

At all obstacles, a 0 score in the effectiveness column means an overall 0 score for the obstacle.

The mark is written on the score sheet as shown below :

OBSTACLE : NAME N°		JUDGE		
RIDER NUMBER	E	S	P	MARK

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>WORLD TREC CHAMPIONSHIPS</u>	TECHNICAL DATA SHEET
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The following PTV obstacles are used :

1. riding up an incline (at least 10 m long and 30 to 45 degrees of slope)
2. riding down an incline (at least 10 m long and 30 to 45 degrees of slope)
3. a step-up of around 1 m high
4. a drop of around 1.30 m
5. a tree trunk (90 cm high, 1 m wide) (to be jumped)
6. a ditch of around 1.50 m wide
7. a hedge (90 cm high, 50/60 cm wide) (to be jumped)
8. a course of 6 bending poles to be taken at trot or canter (4 m between them)
9. water crossing at walk, at least 4 m wide (around 50 cm deep)
10. leading the horse up an incline (at least 10 m long and around 30 to 45 degrees of slope)
11. leading the horse down an incline (at least 10 m long and around 30 to 45 degrees of slope)
12. foot bridge crossing, 1 m wide and 5 m long
13. riding through a corridor, 0.5 m wide and 8 m long
14. immobility in a circle : the horse must remain loose in a 4 m circle for 10 seconds whilst the rider is in a concentric 8 m circle
15. leading the horse into and out of a two-horse trailer (rear loading and front unloading type)
16. open and close a gate whilst mounted
17. S-bend test
18. mounting on the near or off side in a 2.50 m wide circle
19. reining back 4 m in a 0.80 m corridor
20. bank
21. low branches
22. staircase up
23. staircase down

Description of PTV obstacles

A certain amount of data is provided on the shapes, dimensions, materials, etc. in the following obstacle data sheets.

It is important to remember that this data is given for course builders starting entirely from scratch on a piece of land. In all cases it is recommended that natural obstacles are used wherever possible, whatever size and dimensions are used, as long as they represent a true obstacle without creating an objectively dangerous situation.

VI/ PTV OBSTACLE DATA SHEETS

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>RIDING UP AN INCLINE</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

- Level incline (no steps up)
- sloped between 30 and 45°
- length between 6 m and 12 m depending to the angle of the incline
- between 2 and 4 m wide

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags

Aim

Highlighting the calmness and balance of the horse and the correct posture of the rider enabling proper control of the horse.

Important points to look for

- regular paces and good balance of the horse
- good position of the rider (vertical over the centre of gravity and light seat)
- horse stays straight in line with the axis of the slope

Faults to be avoided

- break in forward movement (change of pace)
- dangerous riding
- loss of balance
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider
- horse not straight

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and straightness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 in accordance with the marking scheme

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

RIDING UP AN INCLINE N°																							
STEWARD :																							
Rider N°	E +	S -	P =	TOTAL	<p style="text-align: center;">Important points to look for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - regular paces and good balance of the horse - good position of the rider (vertical over the centre of gravity and light seat) - horse stays straight in line with the axis of the slope <p style="text-align: center;">MARKING SCHEME : E + S - P</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">Effectiveness E</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Style S</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Penalty P</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>* good 7</td> <td>* very good +3</td> <td rowspan="6" style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">Brutality or dangerous riding -3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* 1 fault 4</td> <td>* good +2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* 2 faults 1</td> <td>* quite good +1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* 3 faults 0</td> <td>* average 0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* fall in the penalty zone 0</td> <td>* mediocre -1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>* bad -2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">A mark of 0 for effectiveness means an overall mark of 0</p>			Effectiveness E	Style S	Penalty P	* good 7	* very good +3	Brutality or dangerous riding -3	* 1 fault 4	* good +2	* 2 faults 1	* quite good +1	* 3 faults 0	* average 0	* fall in the penalty zone 0	* mediocre -1		* bad -2
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* fall in the penalty zone 0	* mediocre -1																						
	* bad -2																						

7 = 0 disobedience - 0 breaking of stride etc.
4 = 1 disobedience - broke stride once etc.
1 = 2 disobediences - broke stride twice etc.
0 = 3 disobediences - broke stride three times etc.
mark to be put in box E of the score sheet

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>RIDING DOWN AN INCLINE</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

- Level incline (no drops)
- sloped between 30 and 45°
- length between 6 m and 12 m depending to the angle of the incline
- between 2 and 4 m wide

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers if required

Aim

Highlighting the calmness and balance of the horse and the correct posture of the rider enabling proper control of the horse.

Important points to look for

- regular paces and good balance of the horse
- good position of the rider (vertical over the centre of gravity and light seat)
- horse stays straight in line with the axis of the slope

Faults to be avoided

- break in forward movement (change of pace)
- dangerous riding
- loss of balance
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider
- horse not straight

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and straightness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>STEP-UP</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

Steep sided obstacle, stable ground. Take off and landing without danger.

- Height : between 0.8 and 1.10 m maximum
- 2 to 3 metres wide
- entrance and exit 5 m from obstacle (penalty zone)

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers

N.B. The ground should be well prepared and stabilised on the landing surface (beams or poles holding up the upper edge) as well as on the take off surface.

Aim

Highlighting the forwardness of the horse and the appropriateness and correct posture of the rider enabling proper control of the horse.

Important points to look for

- regularity, balance and impulsion
- good position of the rider
- change of paces and jumping from a stand-still is allowed

Faults to be avoided

- Refusal
- dangerous riding
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>DROP</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

Steep sided obstacle, stable ground. Take off and landing without danger.

- Height : between 1 m minimum and 1.40 m maximum
- 2 metres wide minimum
- entrance and exit 5 m from obstacle (penalty zone)

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers

N.B. The ground should be well prepared and stabilised on the take off surface (beams or poles holding up the upper edge) as well as on the landing surface.

Aim

Highlighting the forwardness of the horse and the appropriateness and correct posture of the rider enabling proper control of the horse.

Important points to look for

- regularity, balance and impulsion
- good position of the rider
- change of paces and jumping from a stand-still is allowed

Faults to be avoided

- Refusal
- dangerous riding
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>TREE TRUNK</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

Compact tree trunk (or log pile) without any branches, placed on stable and level ground. Must be jumped.

- Height : between 0.8 and 1 m
- maximum diameter : 0.8 to 1 m
- minimum obstacle width : 3 m
- entrance and exit 5 m from obstacle (penalty zone)

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- 1 large trunk or 3 smaller trunks
- penalty zone markers

Aim

Highlighting the forwardness of the horse and the appropriateness and correct posture of the rider enabling proper control of the horse.

Important points to look for

- regularity, balance and impulsion
- good position of the rider
- must be jumped
- change of paces and jumping from a stand-still is allowed

Faults to be avoided

- Refusal
- dangerous riding
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>DITCH</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

Natural or man-made ditch which may be able to be negotiated without having to jump. It may have water in it or not.

- Width of ditch : 1.50 m maximum
- minimum length of ditch : 3 metres
- entrance and exit between 3 and 5 m from obstacle (penalty zone)

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers

Aim

Highlighting the forwardness of the horse and the appropriateness and correct posture of the rider enabling proper control of the horse, with or without jumping as the rider so wishes.

Important points to look for

- regularity, balance and impulsion
- good position of the rider
- change of paces and jumping from a stand-still is allowed

Faults to be avoided

- Refusal
- dangerous riding
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>HEDGE</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

Natural or man-made hedge with a fixed bar at 0.6 m in front of and against it. This must be jumped.

- maximum height 1 m (compact part of the hedge)
- maximum thickness : 0.5 m
- minimum obstacle width
- entrance and exit between 3 and 5 m from obstacle (penalty zone)

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers

Aim

Highlighting the forwardness of the horse and the appropriateness and correct posture of the rider enabling proper control of the horse.

Important points to look for

- regularity, balance and impulsion
- good position of the rider
- horse must jump
- change of paces and jumping from a stand-still is allowed

Faults to be avoided


- Refusal
- dangerous riding
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

HEDGE N°					
STEWARD :					
Rider N°	E +	S -	P =	TOTAL	
Important points to look for					
					- regularity, balance and impulsion
					- good position of the rider
					- horse must jump
					- change of paces and jumping from a stand-still is allowed
MARKING SCHEME : E + S - P					
					Effectiveness E
					Style S
					Penalty P
					* good 7 * very good +3
					* 1 fault 4 * good +2
					* 2 faults 1 * quite good +1
					* 3 faults 0 * average 0
					* fall in the penalty zone 0 * mediocre -1
					* bad -2
					Brutality or dangerous riding
					-3
A mark of 0 for effectiveness means an overall mark of 0					

7 = 0 disobedience -
4 = 1 disobedience -
1 = 2 disobediences -
0 = 3 disobediences -
mark to be put in box E of the score sheet

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>WATER CROSSING</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

As far as possible, the water must not have high edges. It must be negotiated at a walk.

- minimum 4 m length of crossing
- depth of water between around 0.50 and 1 m
- entrance and exit between 3 and 5 m from obstacle (penalty zone)

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers

Aim

Showing the forwardness and determination of the horse and the appropriateness of the rider's aids.

Important points to look for

- regularity of the crossing
- calm and forwardness of the horse
- correct aids of the rider

Faults to be avoided

- the horse rolling
- rushing through the crossing
- break in forward motion (even to drink)
- incorrect aids of the rider

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the crossing

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>LEADING UP AN INCLINE</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

- look for level ground enabling the horse to led safely and regularly up the incline
- slope of around 30° to 45°
- minimum 10 m

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers if required

Aim

Showing the combination's adeptness when the horse is being led. The obedience of the horse and the appropriateness of the rider's aids.

Important points to look for

- regularity of the climb in the median axis
- a regard for safety, whatever method is used

Faults to be avoided

- the horse getting loose
- a horse that pushes or walks in front of its rider
- break in forward motion (do not penalise a horse that bounds up the slope)

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and straightness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the position from which the rider leads the horse

Penalties : -1 for flapping stirrup irons
-3 for danger

Marking starts when the rider or the horse enters the penalty zone and ends when they have both left the zone.

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>LEADING DOWN AN INCLINE</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

- look for level ground enabling the horse to led safely and regularly down an incline
- slope of around 30° to 45°
- minimum 10 m

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers if required

Aim

Showing the combination's adeptness when the horse is being led. The obedience of the horse and the appropriateness of the rider's aids.

Important points to look for

- regularity of the descent in the median axis
- a regard for safety, whatever method is used

Faults to be avoided

- the horse getting loose
- a horse that pushes or walks in front of its rider
- break in forward motion (do not penalise a horse that bounds up the slope)

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and straightness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the position from which the rider leads the horse

Penalties : -1 for flapping stirrup irons
-3 for danger

Marking starts when the rider or the horse enters the penalty zone and ends when they have both left the zone.

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>FOOT BRIDGE CROSSING</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

May be on the ground, over a stream or between two mounds of earth, etc. Must be negotiated at walk.

- minimum 6 m length of crossing
- width : around 1 m
- height above the ground, between 0.2 and 1.2 m (unless this poses an objective danger)
- one or two hand-rails
- entrance and exit between 3 and 5 m from obstacle (penalty zone)

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- 1 foot bridge (wooden, iron, etc.)
- penalty zone markers

Aim

Showing the forwardness and determination of the horse and the appropriateness of the rider's aids.

Important points to look for

- regularity of the crossing
- calm and forwardness of the horse
- correct aids of the rider

Faults to be avoided


- the horse refusing
- rushing through the crossing
- incorrect aids of the rider

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and disobediences

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme

Penalties : -3 for brutality or for dangerous riding

FOOT BRIDGE CROSSING N°																							
STEWARD :																							
Rider N°	E +	S -	P =	TOTAL	<p style="text-align: center;">Important points to look for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - regularity of the crossing - calm and forwardness of the horse - correct aids of the rider <p style="text-align: center;">MARKING SCHEME : E + S - P</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">Effectiveness E</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Style S</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Penalty P</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>* good 7</td> <td>* very good +3</td> <td rowspan="6" style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">Brutality or dangerous riding -3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* 1 fault 4</td> <td>* good +2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* 2 faults 1</td> <td>* quite good +1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* 3 faults 0</td> <td>* average 0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* fall in the penalty zone 0</td> <td>* mediocre -1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>* bad -2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">A mark of 0 for effectiveness means an overall mark of 0</p>			Effectiveness E	Style S	Penalty P	* good 7	* very good +3	Brutality or dangerous riding -3	* 1 fault 4	* good +2	* 2 faults 1	* quite good +1	* 3 faults 0	* average 0	* fall in the penalty zone 0	* mediocre -1		* bad -2
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* 3 faults 0	* average 0																						
* fall in the penalty zone 0	* mediocre -1																						
	* bad -2																						

7 = 0 disobedience - did not break stride
4 = 1 disobedience - broke stride once
1 = 2 disobediences - broke stride twice
0 = 3 disobediences - broke stride three times
mark to be put in box E of the score sheet

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>CORRIDOR</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

This is a narrow path made up by bars placed on the ground.

- Length 8 m
- width between poles 0.5 m

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- 4 x 4 m poles
- penalty zone markers if required

Aim

Showing the calm and forwardness of the horse and the appropriateness of the rider's aids.

Important points to look for

- Not touching or placing a foot outside of the corridor
- regularity of the crossing at whatever pace
- calmness of the combinations

Faults to be avoided

- feet touching or stepping outside of the bars
- change in gait

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and whether the bar is touched or not

Style : canter : +3, trot : 0 , walk : -2

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>IMMOBILITY</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

The immobility test will take place in two well marked, concentric circles on level ground.

The horse stands in the inner circle and the stop-watch is started when the rider has left the outer circle. The stop-watch stops if the rider re-enters the circle or if the horse leaves the inner circle.

- inner circle : 4 m diameter
- outer circle : 8 m diameter

N.B. a ringed-off area should be provided to avoid horses getting loose.

Equipment

- 1 number
- material for marking (sand, paint)
- 1 timer

Aim

Showing the obedience and calmness of the horse.

Marking

Effectiveness : The horse has to stay 10 seconds in the circle. Give 1 point per second.

The timer is started when the rider leaves the outer circle. It is stopped:

- if the rider puts a foot back into the outer circle
- if the horse puts a foot outside of the inner circle

Style : not applicable

Penalties :

- 1 interventions: 3 points
- 2 interventions: 6 points
- 3 interventions: mark 0
- brutality: 3 points

Rider's interventions are counted every time he has to stop or return towards the horse, as soon as he has left the 4 m circle. **He must leave the 8-meter circle 10 seconds maximum after his horse has entered the inner circle.** The timer is stopped whenever the rider has to re-enter the outer circle.

The only aid allowed is the voice.

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>HORSE TRAILER</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

- Leading the horse in and out of a horse trailer
- Loading by the rear, unloading by the front

Equipment

- 1 horse trailer
- 1 red flag
- 1 white flag
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers if required

Ensure that the horse trailer is stable to avoid any movement backwards and forwards on loading and unloading.

Aim

Showing the combination's ability to load into a horse trailer, the obedience of the horse and the appropriateness of the rider's aids.

Important points to look for

- regularity of loading and unloading
- a regard for safety, whatever method is used

Faults to be avoided

- the horse getting loose
- the horse that pushes or precedes its rider
- refusal

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and regularity

Style :marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme

Penalties : -3 for brutality
-1 for flapping stirrup irons

Marking starts when the rider or the horse enters the penalty zone and stops when both leave the zone.

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>GATE</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

Hinged gate to be opened and shut whilst mounted

- Height : around 1.20 m
- Width around : 2 m

N.B.: Safety warning : the hinge must be fixed and without play. There must be no protrusions from the gate frame. The gate must open both ways about its hinges.

Equipment

- 1 red flag
- 1 white flag
- 1 number
- tubular gate or wooden gate either opening right or left-handed about its hinges
- penalty zone markers if required

Aim

Showing the obedience and forwardness of the horse and the appropriateness of the rider's aids.

Important points to look for

- forwardness of the horse
- the rider must not let go of the gate from start to finish (neither let go of or pushed)
- calm of the combination and correct execution

Faults to be avoided

- the horse refusing
- the rider letting go of the gate before finishing the test
- incorrect aids of the rider

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and regularity

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>S-BEND TEST</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

Manoeuvring around an S-shaped corridor made from raised poles

For each bend of the S (see diagram)

- width : 0.90 m
- length : 4 m

Equipment

- 2 x 4 m poles + 2 x 2.20 m long poles and their stands
- 1 red flag
- 1 white flag
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers if required

Aim

Showing the obedience and forwardness of the horse and the appropriateness of the rider's aids.

Important points to look for

- Do not knock down the poles when passing through the corridor
- regularity of paces and of the route taken
- obedience to aids

Faults to be avoided

- the poles falling
- lack of regularity in paces

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 according to the general marking scheme

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme

Penalties : -3 for brutality

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>MOUNTING</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

The horse will be mounted on level ground in a circle of diameter 2.50 m, well marked on the ground (sand, paint)
Once the horse is at halt in the circle, it may be mounted on the near or off side. The rider may vault on the horse.

Equipment

- 1 number
- marking equipment
- 1 timer

Aim

Showing the calm of the combination. The immobility of the horse and the accuracy of the rider.

Important points to look for

- Immobility and calm of the horse
- lightness and accuracy of the rider

Faults to be avoided

- the horse leaves the circle
- the rider annoys the horse (banging it with their leg)
- the rider sits down heavily
- any disobedience of the horse, forwards, backwards or sideways must be penalised

Marking

Effectiveness : 7 = immobility, 4= 1 disobedience, 1= 2 disobediences, 0= 3 disobediences 0 if the horse steps out of the circle with one or more feet

Style :marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme

Penalties : -3 for brutality

From the time the horse first sets foot in the circle, the rider has 15 seconds to get on. Mounting is considered to be finished when the rider has put his feet in both stirrups.

Stirrup leathers twisted = 1 penalty point

Penalty for exceeding time = -1 point for each second started over the allowed time

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>REINING BACK</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

Rein back 4 m in an 8 m corridor made up by bars placed on the ground.

- level ground
- Length 8 m
- width 0.80 m

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- 4 x 4 m poles

Aim

Showing the obedience of the horse at reining back and the appropriateness of the rider's aids.

Important points to look for

- Not touching or placing a foot outside of the corridor whilst reining back
- calm and accuracy of the combination
- regularity

Faults to be avoided

- feet touching or stepping outside of the bars when reining back
- disobedience of the horse

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 according to the general marking scheme

Style :marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme

Penalties : -3 for brutality

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>BANK</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

- Regular ground
- slopes of around 30 to 45°
- length of 5 to 6 m for each of the slopes
- change of slope : between 1 and 2 metres of horizontal ground

Equipment

- 3 red flags
- 3 white flags
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers if required

Aim

Highlighting the horse's good balance and correct posture of the rider enabling proper control of the horse.

Important points to look for

- regularity and good balance of the horse
- good position of the rider and maintaining of balance as the slopes change
- horse staying straight in line with the slope's axis

Faults to be avoided

- dangerous riding
- break in forward movement (change of pace)
- loss of balance
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider
- horse not moving straight

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and straightness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>BENDING</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

- Bending through 6 posts, stuck in the ground, evenly spaced in a line at a distance of 5 m from one another
- posts a minimum of 2 m high
- corridor 4 metres wide (2 m each side of the posts)
- a starting gate 4 m before the first post
- a finishing gate 4 m after the last post

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- 6 posts
- corridor marked on the ground (plaster)

Aim

Showing the calm and forwardness of the horse and the appropriate aids of the rider.

Important points to look for

- do not touch the posts whilst passing through them or step out of the corridor
- regular forward motion, in whatever pace
- the calmness of the combination

Faults to be avoided

- touching the posts
- change of pace
- stepping out of the corridor

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on regularity and the fact of "touching or not touching"

Style : canter +3 / trot 0 / walk -2

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>LOW BRANCHES</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

Series of three to five low branches. They must not be fixed.

- set 20 cm above the withers
- 1.80 m wide
- 3 to 5 branches of around 2-3 cm diameter
- marked start and finish line 3-5 m from the obstacle (penalty zone)
- distance between low branches: 1 m

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- 1 to 5 branches and their holders
- penalty zone markers

Aim

Showing how calm and bold the horse is and showing the rider has the right approach

Important points to look for

- not knocking the bars when passing under them
- regular progress, at whatever gait is chosen
- a calm approach by both horse and rider

Faults to be avoided

- knocking down bars
- changing gait

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 according to the general marking system and to whether the bars are knocked down (1=4 / 2=1 / 3=0)

Style : canter +3 / trot 0 / walk -2

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>STAIRCASE UP</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

- Natural or artificial staircase
- length between 5 m and 10 m depending to the angle of the incline
- around 1 m wide
- steps: depth around 0.40 m
height 0.2 to 0.3 m

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags

Aim

Highlighting the calmness and balance of the horse and the correct posture of the rider enabling proper control of the horse.

Important points to look for

- regular paces and good balance of the horse
- good position of the rider (vertical over the centre of gravity and light seat)
- horse stays straight in line with the axis of the slope

Faults to be avoided

- break in forward movement (change of pace)
- dangerous riding
- loss of balance
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider
- horse not straight

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and straightness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 in accordance with the marking scheme

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

STAIRCASE UP N°																							
STEWARD :																							
Rider N°	E +	S -	P =	TOTAL	<p style="text-align: center;">Important points to look for</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - regular paces and good balance of the horse - good position of the rider (vertical over the centre of gravity and light seat) - horse stays straight in line with the axis of the slope <p style="text-align: center;">MARKING SCHEME : E + S - P</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">Effectiveness E</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Style S</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Penalty P</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>* good 7</td> <td>* very good +3</td> <td rowspan="6" style="text-align: center; vertical-align: middle;">Brutality or dangerous riding -3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* 1 fault 4</td> <td>* good +2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* 2 faults 1</td> <td>* quite good +1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* 3 faults 0</td> <td>* average 0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>* fall in the penalty zone 0</td> <td>* mediocre -1</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>* bad -2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">A mark of 0 for effectiveness means an overall mark of 0</p>			Effectiveness E	Style S	Penalty P	* good 7	* very good +3	Brutality or dangerous riding -3	* 1 fault 4	* good +2	* 2 faults 1	* quite good +1	* 3 faults 0	* average 0	* fall in the penalty zone 0	* mediocre -1		* bad -2
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7 = 0 disobedience - 0 breaking of stride etc.
4 = 1 disobedience - broke stride once etc.
1 = 2 disobediences - broke stride twice etc.
0 = 3 disobediences - broke stride three times etc.
mark to be put in box E of the score sheet

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>STAIRCASE DOWN</u>	OBSTACLE DATA SHEET
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Features

- Natural or artificial staircase
- length between 5 m and 10 m depending to the angle of the incline
- around 1 m wide
- steps: depth around 0.40 m
height 0.2 to 0.3 m

Equipment

- 2 red flags
- 2 white flags
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers if required

Aim

Highlighting the calmness and balance of the horse and the correct posture of the rider enabling proper control of the horse.

Important points to look for

- regular paces and good balance of the horse
- good position of the rider (vertical over the centre of gravity and light seat)
- horse stays straight in line with the axis of the slope

Faults to be avoided

- break in forward movement (change of pace)
- dangerous riding
- loss of balance
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider
- horse not straight

Marking

Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness and straightness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous riding

CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>IN-HAND STEP-UP</u>	OBSTACLE DATASHEET
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CHARACTERISTICS

Steep sided obstacle, stable ground. Take off and landing without danger.

- height: 1.10 m maximum; 0.80 m minimum
- width: 2 to 3 m
- entrance and exit marked 5 m from obstacle (penalty zone)
- route for the rider marked on the side as appropriate. This route cannot be taken by the horse.

EQUIPMENT

- 1 red flag
- 1 white flag
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers if necessary.

N.B : The ground should be well prepared and stabilised on the landing surface (beams or poles holding up the upper edge) as well as on the take-off surface.

AIM

Highlighting the forwardness of the horse as well as the rider's appropriate approach and correct posture enabling proper control of the horse.

IMPORTANT POINTS

- regularity, balance and impulsion
- correct position of the rider
- change of paces and jumping from a stand-still allowed.

FAULTS TO AVOID

- refusal
- dangerous handling
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider

MARKING

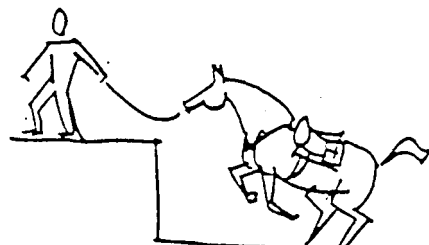
Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous handling

IN-HAND STEP-UP N°

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CROSS COUNTRY TRIALS COURSE	<u>IN-HAND DROP</u>	OBSTACLE DATASHEET
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CHARACTERISTICS

Steep sided obstacle, stable ground. Take off and landing without danger.

- height: 1.10 m maximum; 0.80 m minimum
- width: 2 to 3 m
- entrance and exit marked 5 m from obstacle (penalty zone)
- route for the rider marked on the side as appropriate. This route cannot be taken by the horse.

EQUIPMENT

- 1 red flag
- 1 white flag
- 1 number
- penalty zone markers if necessary.

N.B : The ground should be well prepared and stabilised on the landing surface (beams or poles holding up the upper edge) as well as on the take-off surface.

AIM

Highlighting the forwardness of the horse as well as the rider's appropriate approach and correct posture enabling proper control of the horse.

IMPORTANT POINTS

- regularity, balance and impulsion
- correct position of the rider
- change of paces and jumping from a stand-still allowed.

FAULTS TO AVOID

- refusal
- dangerous handling
- incorrect position of rider
- incorrect aids of the rider

MARKING

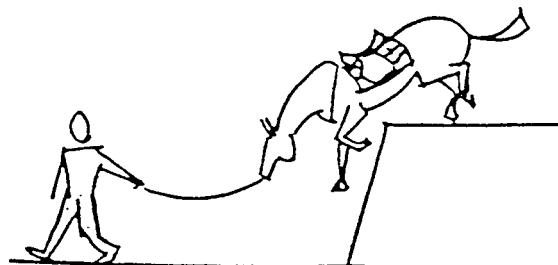
Effectiveness : Marked 7, 4, 1, or 0 depending on the forwardness

Style : marked from +3 to -2 according to the general marking scheme (rider's position)

Penalties : -3 for brutality or dangerous handling

IN-HAND DROP

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The World T.R.E.C. Championships

SPECIFICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

The World TREC Championships (Equestrian Trail Riding and Trekking Techniques Competition) is one of the major annual events in the International Federation of Equestrian Tourism's calendar. It is the show-case in terms of competitions.

For the selected riders it is the culmination of a whole year's work and the result of a major effort in both sports and financial terms.

In this respect, the FITE is particularly concerned that the event should be an exemplary success, through faultless organisation in order to promote its image and the activities that it represents.

General organisation

The general organisation of the World TREC Championships is confided each year to an affiliated NETO (National Equestrian Tourism Organisation). The organising NETO may use an organisational committee liaising with the general secretariat at the FITE. However, only the NETO is responsible with regard to the FITE.

To be valid, the NETO's candidacy must be received at the FITE's general secretariat at least two years before the event's date.

The World TREC Championships cannot be organised without the express agreement of the FITE given through the agency of its Officers and its General Assembly – in accordance with the international TREC rules, drawn up by the latter. It can only be organised under its authority and guidance.

The organising NETO involves all the people with the required competencies to provide it with all the assistance and know-how of whatever nature that it may need. They formally commit themselves to complying with these specifications in every respect.

Technical Delegation

The FITE's Technical Delegate is the chargé de mission. In this capacity he is responsible to it (the Officers) in terms of the correct functioning of the organisation and must personally be responsible for the organisation of all aspects that are involved in it, including the catering plans, accommodation plans, as well as all technical aspects of the championship. He guarantees the application of the international rules governing the discipline.

To do this he acts in close liaison with the General Secretary and the organisers. He gives his opinion upstream on the site proposed and then reports on the correct functioning of the organisation as well as on any difficulties that are encountered.

The site feasibility visit and the recommendations for this are detailed in article 2 - § 6 – in the FITE's International TREC rules. At any point in time, the Technical Delegate is under the obligation to report any financial difficulties which could prejudice the championship's organisation.

After the event, he produces an event based report on the past organisation and, as appropriate, proposes improvements and desirable modifications.

Organising committee composition - Budget

The organising committee's composition (with full contact details) and the division of tasks between its members must be stated in the candidacy folder, along with the budget relating to the event, which will be presented with particular care.

The file also includes the organising committee's formal commitment as regards the various budgetary items, together with an assessment of the entry fee for each participant. This entry fee must remain comparable from one year to the next, taking account of the change in value of the reference currency.

I - CHOSEN SITE FOR ORGANISING THE EVENT

NETO:

COUNTRY:

REGION:

Geographical location (give distances relative to the main World capitals and important towns in the region considered – also indicate if appropriate any tourist features, etc.)

II - ACCESS - RECEPTION FACILITIES - ACCOMMODATION

Site access

Nearest airport

Road access, proximity to motorways (give details)

Rail access (details if necessary, connections, foreseeable difficulties, etc.)

Town (importance, population, notable sites and monuments, etc.)

Significant details, site characteristics

Reception facilities - minimum

⇒ Equipped board room (platform, tables, chairs) with sound equipment to brief competitors and give press meetings (120 to 150 people)

⇒ Press room with telephones and fax

⇒ Reception room with telephone (formalities, secretary's office) serving as a committee room and control room (CR),

⇒ Display board and all information resources (site plan, miscellaneous information)

⇒ 1 computer room for processing of results.

⇒ Phone points in immediate vicinity

⇒ Map reading room (P.O.R. phase)

Stabling

- ⇒ 60 to 80 covered stables (according to the number of competitors) on flat ground cleared of all potential hazards that could wound or injure. The principle should be applied of one stable per horse plus one stable per team to store equipment. For the latter, individuals coming from countries that are poorly represented could possibly be combined.
- ⇒ Security arrangements, patrols
- ⇒ Food for horses (horse nuts, cereals, good quality forage, straw)
- ⇒ Drinking and showering water with quick drainage near to the stables.

Accommodation for riders and supporters - catering *

(*) this aspect is to be paid particularly careful attention. THE SUCCESS OF AN EVENT LIKE THE WORLD TREC CHAMPIONSHIP IS VERY LARGELY DEPENDENT ON HOW THIS ASPECT IS ORGANISED

Group hostelry type premises (Youth hostel, holiday village, community centre or even student accommodation etc. - at least 100 beds) should be sought to limit the costs of participants

- ⇒ 1 room near the site used for meals (200 places at least)
- ⇒ Saturday and Sunday lunchtime meal on site for some of the participants, followers, officials and stewards.
- ⇒ Cold, take-away meal for P.O.R. competitors and the stewards involved.
- ⇒ Meals to be served by the organisation :

- Friday evening (participants, followers, officials, stewards)
- Saturday lunchtime (the same people in a dining room)
- Saturday evening (the same people in a dining room), official meal
- Sunday lunchtime (the same people, buffet style)

N.B. : The organisation must be capable of welcoming competitors who so wish as early as the Thursday preceding the competition (and the following Monday) or of informing them of a nearby hostelry with all the necessary facilities for the horse and riders. However, this facility implies that access to the competition ground can be closed off from competing riders.

III - EQUIPMENT - SPECIFIC RESOURCES

The organisers are obliged to provide competitors with number tabards that have large numbers easily seen from both front and back, attached to the rider's chest.

The horse also wears the competitor's number on their brow band.

Both of these must be rain-proof

⇒ General outdoor sound equipment and commentator (announcements made in English and French, the FITE's official languages) for the:

- reception site
- Cross Country Trials Course (PTV)
- results, commentary, background music

⇒ Stands (results announcement - prize giving ceremony)

⇒ Sports podium for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places (remember that results are given for teams of 4)

⇒ Off-road vehicles

- mobility of officials

- transport between the CR and the P.O.R.

- ⇒ Trials bikes : runners taking results from the Cross Country Trials Course (P.T.V.) to the computer room
- ⇒ Radio cars and walkie talkies (municipal or other)
- constant link between the computer room and the general secretary's office
- organisation of the Control of Paces event
- ⇒ Next to the stables
- Trailer and horse lorry park)
- Car park)150 spaces

IV - REQUIREMENTS RELATED TO THE SPORTS EVENT

A - Optimum Speed and Orienteering Course (P.O.R.)

- ⇒ 6 months in advance, obtain a route grid (at least 100 km) within a 15 to 20 km diameter area
- ⇒ Ensure that all paths will be open for riders to pass
- ⇒ Consult the municipalities in question and obtain the required authorisations within good time
- ⇒ The urban route should be kept SHORT. Only used at the end of the course.
- ⇒ Hitching point for horses and adjoining map-reading room away from the public.
- ⇒ Horse watering points at certain check points

B - Cross Country Trials Course (P.T.V.)

- ⇒ Sufficient space for a 5 km course, with natural or constructed land features and a natural or artificial water crossing (ref. International TREC rules)
- ⇒ Personnel to course build, safety etc.
- ⇒ Attractions

C – Control Of Paces

- ⇒ A flat surface : 250 m long and 12 m wide
- ⇒ Equipment to mark the ground (sports ground (football – rugby) marking type equipment)

Presentation of the horse and rider

- ⇒ Plan the place where this formality will be accomplished and its organisation

D - Requirements common to all three phases

- ⇒ Judges and stewards

The organisation of the World TREC Championships requires the presence and work of around 40 people at once.

All events are organised using FITE approved and appointed judges. Half (16) of the 32 judges required to organise the PTV are foreign to the organising country. Their expenses are covered by the organising country for food and accommodation, from the opening of the championship until it is over, including the night following the announcement of results.

It is the FITE's job to provide a list of available judges in good time. The appointment of judges is made in the countries possessing FITE approved judges, divided in an equitable manner (no more than 4 judges from any one NETO)

⇒ Specialised veterinarians : a team of three specialised veterinarians

N.B.: the organisation of the three events must be validated by the Technical Delegate

Presentation of horse and rider

- Plan a place where this formality can be accomplished and organised

V - PROMOTION

It is recalled that since the World TREC Championships is one of the major show-cases to present, promote and enhance the FITE's actions and activities related to equestrian tourism. Nothing must be neglected in terms of achieving this objective.

All documents concerning the organisation must refer to the FITE, mentioning that the organisation is governed by its regulations, in line with the international rules written under its authority, and including its logo.

Promotion and advertising is achieved:

⇒ during trade shows and events in which the FITE and the NETO concerned participate, and in a more general manner that the NETO's are required to attend

⇒ Through :

- the national and international press
- the regional and local press
- posters and presentation and promotional documents printed for the event
- press conferences
- all appropriate means

All tasks of information and promotion require the services of a professional organisation.

VI - SPECIAL MEASURES

The organisers should seek and offer all means likely to find trained and fit horses for competitors from far afield or from other continents in addition to advantageous conditions of participation likely to encourage them to enter.

The corresponding requests must be submitted to them sufficiently in advance in order for them to be processed without having to rush.

The organisers are responsible for covering the food and accommodation costs of championship judges and stewards.

They also cover all food and accommodation and travelling expenses of the Technical Delegate from the FITE for all travelling required to accomplish his mission to organise the championship.

The reimbursement of the Technical Delegate's expenses takes place at the end of the event, before he leaves for his country of origin, as well as **immediately** at the end of each mission that is carried out on a one-off basis.

VII – OFFICIAL PTV INSPECTION

The official PTV inspection, after validation by the Technical Delegate, takes place on the Friday prior to the World TREC Championship

VIII – ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS – PRIZE GIVING - CEREMONY

The publishing of PTV results (interim placings) is given on the evening following the phase. Should this not be possible, these results are published on the following morning, before 8 o'clock in the morning.

The final results must be given to chef d'equipes from each NETO present and each ground jury member at least one hour before the prize giving.

The prize giving is organised in accordance to the measures given in appendix to the present specifications. As far as possible, this ceremony occurs with the riders on horseback.

IX – ORGANISER'S REPORT

The organisers are obliged to submit an organiser's report to the General Secretariat at the FITE within the shortest possible lapse of time (at most 2 months). This report has the aim of drawing conclusions from the past organisation as quickly as possible and of making the task easier for future organisers.

To do this, they will use the appraisal outline developed by the Technical Delegate and the President of the Ground Jury.

X – OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

Official publications (files, invitations and others) must be in at least two languages (French and English) as must the on site announcements made during the world championships.