



# 2020–2021 Extraordinary Exceptions

Addendum to the  
Rules and Regulations of Membership  
As of July 9, 2020

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**Due to the extraordinary situations created by the COVID-19 virus concerns, the IEA Board of Directors has made several exceptions to the IEA Rulebook that will be allowed in the 2020-21 IEA Competition Season. These temporary, one-year exceptions to the IEA Rulebook are noted within this Addendum.**

## **1. OPTIONAL EARLY START TO 2020-21 COMPETITION SEASON: AUGUST 1, 2020**

It is with utmost optimism that an early start to the 2020-21 competition season has been approved. Given the abrupt end to the 2019-20 show season and members who are eager to be active as soon as possible, membership will open in early May and regular competitions may begin August 1, 2020, as long as events are in compliance with mandates and restrictions relating to COVID-19 at the local, state and national levels. Adjustments to ensure the safety of participants and spectators at IEA competitions are expected and may include changes to time schedules and spectator attendance. Given ongoing restrictions due to COVID-19, the ability to host more competitions during the “outdoor season” is a good option this year in many areas of the country.

### **Event hosts applying for early competition dates in August must meet the following criteria:**

- Plan in May and June for shows taking place in August
- Secure at least two other teams who are willing to attend on the proposed show date to guarantee the competition will occur with a minimum of three teams (rule 4303)
- Gain show date approval from the Zone Administrator (*rule 4204.11*)
- Submit a Show Hosting Application (noting any co-hosts) and Prize-list to the IEA Membership Office not less than forty-five (45) days before the proposed show date (*rule 4204.11*)
- Submit an Equisure Event Insurance application along with the Show Hosting Application (*rules 2303.11 and 4204.12*)
- Complete coach, team, and individual membership applications in a timely manner (*rule section 2300*)

## **2. EXCEPTIONS TO ADVANCEMENT RULES FOR 2020-21**

For the 2020-21 competition season, the following mandatory advancement rules will be waived:

- **Rule 3205.1** - *Riders may not compete in the same division for more than two (2) show seasons.*
- **Rule 3205.2** - *If a rider accumulates twenty-two (22) points in a class in regular season competitions in any single competition year, that rider points out and must, during the next competition year, move up at least one division in order to be eligible to ride in any IEA show.*
- **Rule 3205.4** - *Any rider who has qualified or shown as an individual rider in a given class in their division for the previous season's National Finals must advance to the next class the following season. Riders selected to compete in team classes at the National Finals who do not meet any of the other advancement criteria are not required to advance to the next division the following season.*

Riders who competed in a division for two years, pointed out by earning 22 points, or qualified for National Finals have the option to advance to the next level or remain at the same level at which they competed during the 2019-20 season.

### **NOTE: Rules 3201.2 and 3201.5 relating to a rider's outside experience still apply in 2020-21.**

- **Rule 3201.2** - *The rider's total riding experience, not just riding experience with IEA shows, must be considered for class designations as per Rule 3000.*
- **Rule 3201.5** - *Along with the mandatory advancement rules, riders must be evaluated each year according to class description levels prior to submitting membership application.*

Riders will be required to advance based on outside experience as it relates to class descriptions.

### **3. SECOND YEAR SENIOR GUIDELINES**

Two of IEA's major purposes are to prepare students for collegiate riding and to provide exposure and opportunity to equine athletics. Given the far-reaching effects of the COVID-19 virus and related shutdowns, economic hardships, and effects on current and future equestrian opportunities, the IEA will offer additional opportunities for 2019-2020 12th graders.

The IEA is hopeful that most 2020 graduates will be able to pursue their intended goals of attending their chosen colleges and participating on their respective collegiate equestrian teams. However, for 2020 graduates who become restricted in that opportunity, the IEA will allow an additional year of participation with the following guidelines:

- The IEA rider may not be a member of a collegiate equestrian team of any type or discipline.
- Coaches of 2020 graduates interested in a second-year senior experience must file a petition with the Zone Ethics Committee to request that the rider be allowed to re-join as a member of their 2020-21 IEA team.
- If deemed eligible for participation during the 2020-21 competition season, the rider will be considered a full IEA member with the ability to accrue individual and team points during regular and post season shows.
- Second-year seniors may only compete with their designated IEA team and assigned coach(es). Second-year seniors may not attend competitions using a proxy coach.
- If at any point during the academic year, a second-year senior joins a college equestrian team, they automatically become ineligible for future participation in IEA. The IEA coach must immediately notify the IEA Membership office to remove the rider from the team roster. The rider may not compete in any remaining regular season shows nor return to participate in post season competitions.

Violation of the second-year senior criteria will result in forfeiture of individual and team points per rules 8107.8 and 9502.5.

### **4. AMENDMENTS TO SHOW HOSTING RULES FOR 2020-21**

Event hosts will be expected to follow mandates and restrictions relating to COVID-19 in place at the local, state and national levels when planning and running IEA competitions, and those mandates supersede any IEA rules, guidelines, or suggested protocol. Knowing smaller events will be necessary to ensure safety of participants and spectators through implementation of social distancing and COVID-19 related procedural changes, IEA made COVID-19 amendments to the following show hosting rules:

- **Rule 4106** *In zones that are NOT split into regions, the EHC must be prepared to accommodate at least* For the 2020-21 competition season, it is recommended that the EHC accommodate a maximum of twelve (12) riders from within the Region in each class offered. *In zones that ARE split into regions, the EHC must guarantee at least one entry per class to every team within their region entering before the priority closing date.* (See Rule 5313)
- **Rule 4204.5** For the 2020-21 competition season, a competition day cannot exceed **175 rides**. This number applies whether running a single show day or an AM/PM show day. *200 rides without prior approval of the Zone Administrator. The intended size of the show(s) should be included in the show hosting application(s). Additional rides must be approved by the Zone Administrator no later than the closing date of the event (s).*

All other rules relating to show operations as defined in section 4100 Competitions and Shows - Applicability of IEA Rules and section 4200 Event Host Coordinator (EHC) still apply.

### **5. AMENDMENTS TO SHOW ENTRY RULES FOR 2020-21**

Restricting teams from extensive travel to other regions and limiting the number of rides allowed in a show day, will allow EHCs to effectively incorporate social distancing and COVID-19 protocols that reduce chances of exposure or spread of COVID-19. To help ensure safety of participants and spectators, IEA has added COVID-19 amendments to the following rules related to show entries for the 20-21 season:

- **Rule 2803.8** For the 2020-21 competition season, teams hosting shows **MUST limit all entries only to their region**, unless otherwise approved by their Zone Administrator. *or may include a priority entry period for their region.*
- **Rule 5302** After the initial deadline date, entries may be opened to members from other regions and zones if space permits. For the 2020-21 competition season, rule 5302 only applies if an exception to open entries to other regions has been approved by the Zone Administrator. (See rule 2803.8.)
- **Rule 5313** The EHC may limit the number of entries so long as it is done in a fair and equitable manner, and does not require entrants to supply horses for the event. (See Rule 4106.) **The manner in which entries will be limited must be stated in the prize list.**

**For the 2020-21 Competition Season Options of Fair and Equitable Entry Include:**

- Accepting one (1) rider per class from every team within the Region, or
- Accepting entries on a first come first serve basis until all spots are filled, or
- Accepting entries by random draw of teams meeting the registration deadline, or
- Accepting twelve (12) riders per class so two sections of six (6) run for each class, or
- Accepting X number of performance rides (over fences, reining, or dressage tests) and Y number of flat rides (flat, dressage tests, or horsemanship) placed at any level from attending teams, or
- Accepting entries only from the host and co-host teams, or
- Accepting entries from teams defined in a prearranged calendar coordinated by the Region President, or
- Proposing an option for Fair and Equitable Entry not included here that is approved by the Zone Administrator

All other rules relating to show entries as defined in section 2803 Zone Requirements and Split Guidelines - General Rules for Dividing a Zone into Regions and section 5300 Entries still apply.

## **6. AMENDMENT TO JUDGE USE RULE FOR 2020-21**

Because shows during the 2020-21 regular season will need to be smaller, a cost saving concession is to allow EHCs to hire the same individual to judge two shows occurring in the same day or two shows occurring over the same weekend. IEA is allowing the following COVID-19 rule amendment related to hiring judges:

- **Rule 6204** For the 2020-21 competition season, a person may judge only *one show managed by* one weekend for any particular EHC within the same competition season. If the EHC is running two shows in one day (Show A and Show B) or two shows over one weekend (Saturday & Sunday), the same person may judge both shows. If the EHC is running four shows (Show A and Show B) on Saturday and Sunday) over one weekend, the same person **may not** judge both days.

All other rules relating to the use of judges as defined in section 6200 Judges Qualifications still apply.

## **7. ENFORCEMENT OF COVID-19 MANDATES**

Equestrian competitions are one of the few athletic offerings currently permitted. To ensure IEA shows may continue operating, all attendees share responsibility in being COVID-19 conscious and proactive in safeguarding themselves and others. Everyone taking part in an IEA show, including but not limited to, those working as paid staff members or volunteers, participating as coaches or riders, or attending as spectators **must** follow IEA COVID-19 MANDATES.

### **NEW RULE - IEA COVID-19 MANDATES**

For the 2020-21 Competition Season all IEA shows and participants (show staff, volunteers, coaches, riders, and spectators) **must** adhere to the following IEA COVID-19 MANDATES:

## IEA COVID-19 MANDATES

- Verification of personal temperature of less than 99.5 degrees before arriving on Show grounds.
- Regardless of temperature, do not attend the Event if feeling ill, showing any signs that could potentially be related to COVID-19, or if you have been in contact with anyone diagnosed or showing symptoms of COVID-19 within 14 days of the event.
- Face covering (Mask) must be worn in any setting where there is a possibility of being within six feet of other individuals (who are not members of their immediate household), and when not mounted on a horse. If an individual needs a mask accommodation due to a verifiable health condition under the Americans with Disabilities Act, please notify the show host at least 24 hours prior to the start of the competition. Attendees will be expected to provide their own masks.
- Hands must be washed and/or sanitized upon arrival at Show grounds and frequently while in attendance. Attendees should bring a personal supply of hand sanitizer.
- Maintain Social-Distancing of at least 6 feet between non-family members.
- Advise the IEA membership office if any person is diagnosed with COVID-19 within 14 days of attending an IEA Event.

The Event Host Coordinator (EHC) is responsible for enforcing IEA COVID-19 MANDATES with special attention paid to Social-Distancing practices and face covering (Mask) requirements. The EHC must deny entry and/or order from the show grounds any individual(s) not willing to ascribe to these practices.

Along with IEA's COVID-19 MANDATES, the EHC must follow directives and restrictions relating to COVID-19 in place at the local, state and national levels when planning and running IEA competitions. National/State/Local Government and/or Health Department rules may differ from these IEA Guidelines/Rules. In ALL cases, the more restrictive regulations, recommendations, guidelines and requirements will prevail.

### **Steps to follow if an INDIVIDUAL is not complying with IEA COVID-19 MANDATES:**

- A first warning will be given by the EHC or Show Manager. The offending individual(s) will be reminded of IEA COVID-19 MANDATES and asked to comply or leave.
- A second warning will be given by the Show Steward and Show Manager together. If the offending individual(s) refuse to comply, he/she will be ordered to immediately leave the show grounds.
- The Show Steward must include in the Show Steward Report details of the incident noting the name(s) of the individual(s) refusing to comply with IEA COVID-19 MANDATES and/or ordered from the show grounds.
- The Zone Ethics Committee will review incidents related to noncompliance of IEA COVID-19 MANDATES. Penalties outlined in rules 9502 and 9603 which include but are not limited to fine, suspension, and/or expulsion from the organization will be assigned as appropriate.

### **Steps to follow if the SHOW is not operating within IEA COVID-19 MANDATES:**

- A coach member or Show Steward may address the EHC/Show Manager with any concerns regarding noncompliance of IEA COVID-19 MANDATES relating to show operations. The EHC/Show Manager must make every reasonable attempt to correct the issue(s) as quickly as possible.
- The Show Steward may stop competition until the show is in compliance with IEA COVID-19 MANDATES.
- The Show Steward with permission from the Zone Administrator, IEA Membership Office, National Steward, or Executive Director may cancel a competition in progress for noncompliance of IEA COVID-19 MANDATES.
- The Show Steward must include in the Show Steward Report detailed information relating to show operational issues of noncompliance.
- The Zone Ethics Committee will review incidents related to noncompliance of IEA COVID-19 MANDATES. Penalties outlined in rules 9502 and 9603 which include but are not limited to fine, suspension, and/or expulsion from the organization will be assigned as appropriate.