

# Cross Country Equestrian Workshop Competition

Workshop competitions introduce CCE to competitors, organizers, officials and volunteers. A workshop is based around a simplified competition. The primary goal is familiarizing everyone with the fundamentals of CCE so they can transition to Training Competitions.

Ideally a workshop includes the two main Stages of CCE

- 1) Cross Country Ride (CCR)
- 2) Jump Off Ride (JOR)

Workshops begin with a briefing and discussion where the basic concepts of the sport are covered. Course-walks follow and the rules and options related to the specific types of obstacles are discussed further. This part of the workshop becomes an open conversation so that all questions and any concerns are addressed. After the walks, everyone should thoroughly understand CCE fundamentals and have plans for how they will ride the courses.

The competition at workshops is conducted with a flexible and accommodating approach. After the briefing and walks, a competitor may want to change Level, or ride in a group and any reasonable request should be allowed.

The same Allowances used in Training Competitions may be used at a workshop. The organizer decides which Allowances are used and any applicable conditions. Group Riding has proven very popular and is especially encouraged at workshops.

A workshop typically requires much less preparation and supervision than a schooling horse trial of similar size. A CCEA representative assists in the set-up and running of the workshop, but is principally involved in explaining CCE to participants.

Scoring is not necessary at a workshop, though it is a great opportunity to familiarize. Any convenient method may be used to record scores. Course times and time penalties are typically not included in scoring the competition at a workshop.

The first workshop will focus on the fundamental aspects of CCE and provide a context for additional features and details that can be introduced at subsequent workshops or Training Competitions.

Ultimately, the purpose of workshops is to make organizers and competitors feel sufficiently prepared and comfortable to move on to Training Competitions and for most, only one or two would be needed. Training Competitions center on the actual competition but retain considerable flexibility and may include educational components if needed.

Additional Notes:

**Attire:** Under CCE rules, you need to wear an approved helmet and boots with heels at all times when riding, and a protective vest whenever jumping. Sleeves that cover the upper arm and pants that cover the legs are required. There are no neckwear or coat requirements or restrictions on colors or patterns.

**Tack and Equipment:** There are some progressive tack rules in CCE that relate to animal welfare and incentivizing ethical training, but these are not applied for workshops.

**Experience:** Participants should familiarize themselves with the information on the CCEA website. Additional information will be emailed or posted prior to the workshop. Those with a rudimentary understanding of eventing or jumpers will have no difficulty understanding CCE basics. Workshop participants are encouraged to ride at a level that is easy for them. In CCE every obstacle is optional - a competitor may pass any obstacle. CCE welcomes competitors that want to jump very few obstacles or none at all.