

Vet for CTR

Your role is to...

- Check each horse's heart rate and soundness, before the competition, to ensure that it is "fit to start", take heart rates over the line and then again for final vet inspection. Make sure horses are vetted in order of start time, or as close to as possible, unsaddled in a halter and lead rope.

Success looks like...

- A smooth day where competitors are freely bringing their horses into the vet ring area, and leaving again satisfied with how their horse was presented. Happy at the conclusion of their event and their horse is also happy and both have had a good experience.

Where to go...

- To where the CTR vet ring and start/finish line have been set up – you'll either be in the vet ring, or positioned at the finish line.

What you'll need...

- Tidy but working, casual attire, closed and sturdy footwear, stethoscope and stop watch (or phone app).

Who can answer your questions...

- The main event convenor or CTR convenor.

Instructions:

Pre-ride

- Take heart rate over 15 or 30 seconds and convert to beats per minute, should be 64 or under. If over 64 assess whether because of illness (running nose, miserable looking, etc) or over excited/anxious horse. Can request horse goes away and calms down and re-presents.
- Tell vet writer the HR and make sure they record correctly (ie have them read it back)
- Check over horse for lump/bumps/soreness and make note of any lesions – mudfever, cuts, etc as you will need to go back to this later to ascertain whether any lesions after ride are new or not.
- Horse trot 40m out and back on a loose rope in a straight line. Some unevenness (not lame) is ok, make a note of it (stiffness or slightly uneven gait).
- Tell rider horse is ok or not to compete.

Post-ride, Over the line

- Horses walk across line and stop in front of vets. Riders may dismount. The heart rate is then taken for a full 60 seconds. Tell vet writer in clear voice and have them read it back to be sure.
- These horses must take precedence over horses waiting for final vetting as the HR drops much quicker so they need to be checked asap.

Final, post-ride

- Horses must be presented no more than 30 mins after crossing finish line, lateness will result in elimination. Again must be presented unsaddled.
- Take heart rate straight away for full 60 seconds. Tell vet writer in clear voice. Must be 64 beats or less. If HR is over 64 bpm then have another "vet" or an official take it to confirm.
- Again, check over for lesions, soreness, etc and check against pre-ride notes if necessary.
- Horse trot out 40m and back on a loose rope in a straight line. Consistent lameness is elimination. Lameness must also be confirmed with another "vet" or an official.
- Tell rider if horse ok or not. Tell vet writer to write down if a vet out.

Sometimes a Heart Rate can be hard to hear. Don't be afraid to ask another vet present (or someone else authorized by the OC) to take it instead or as well as. If you are not a registered vet then you can't eliminate a horse for lameness or metabolics without consulting another "vet" or one of the officials.



Thanks for helping make this an awesome event