



EQUESTRIAN SPORTS  
NEW ZEALAND

# OFFICIAL WARNING PROCEDURE - YELLOW CARDS

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THE ROLE OF THE ESNZ OFFICIAL

[NZEQUESTRIAN.ORG.NZ](http://NZEQUESTRIAN.ORG.NZ)



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## GOOD BEHAVIOUR IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF ESNZ MEMBERSHIP AND COMPETITION AND IS IMBEDDED IN THE ESNZ VALUES WHICH ARE:

- Welfare of the horse
- Integrity
- Excellence
- Unity
- Fairplay
- Respect

In an ideal world everyone would play fair, by the rules, and treat everyone else in the manner they would like to be treated themselves, but the reality is sometimes far from this.

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## WHAT ARE OFFICIAL WARNINGS / YELLOW CARDS?

Yellow Card Official Warnings are used as a means to discipline members for misconduct while under the jurisdiction of any ESNZ official at an ESNZ event.

The official warning is used as a caution and will remain on the member's record for 12 months, during which time if a second official warning is received by the member, there will be further consequences including a fine and suspension from competition.

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## WHEN ARE THEY USED?

Official warnings may be issued for any of the following:

- Abuse of horse
- Abuse/disregard of Official
- Safety of others
- Dangerous riding
- Incorrect behaviour
- Non-compliance with rules

Being an ESNZ official can sometimes mean having to discipline a member for misconduct, even if we feel uncomfortable doing so – it's in the best interest of horse welfare, fair play and integrity, for that competition and for equestrian sports generally



# CONSEQUENCES

## DURING THE COMPETITION:

- A rider who receives a Yellow Card may continue to compete at the event
- At this point the Yellow Card is just a warning, with further consequences coming in to play with a repeat of the Yellow Card (which can be for the same or another offense)

## IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COMPETITION/EVENT:

- The Yellow Card will be flagged on that member's profile in the ESNZ database and added to the list on the website of those with current official warnings. The Yellow Card flag remains on their profile for 12 months.

# WHAT DO THE RULES SAY?

## ESNZ GENERAL REGULATION ARTICLE 148.7-148.8

- 7. In cases of offences of abuse of horses in any form (rapping, abnormal sensitisation or desensitisation of limbs, banned schooling methods etc.) or incorrect behaviour towards event officials or any other party connected with the event above and which are of a less serious nature:*
  - 7.1. The President of the Ground Jury, the President of the Appeal Committee and the Chief Steward, instead of instituting the procedures foreseen in the legal system, may deliver to the person responsible a notification of official warning, either by hand or by any other suitable means. The notification of official warning will then be investigated by ESNZ and if upheld an official warning will be issued to the person responsible.*
  - 8. Should the same person responsible receive one more official warning (ESNZ, FEI or other NF's) at the same or any other event within one year of the delivery of the first official warning, the person responsible shall be automatically suspended for a period of two months immediately following the event at which the personal responsible is competing and will be fined \$200. The ESNZ CEO shall be responsible for notifying the person responsible of such suspension.*



# NOTIFICATION OF OFFICIAL WARNING

ESNZ official warnings can be given out at any ESNZ event, or ESNZ venue, by a current ESNZ official (Judge, TD, CD or Chief Steward) to an ESNZ member.

With the new ESNZ website and database, there have been some changes to the way official warnings are handled.

Official warnings are still given out via the tri-pad, for the inappropriate behaviour/action.

After the official warning has been issued to the member, ESNZ will receive a copy of it from the appropriate official.

ESNZ admins will be able to log in to the database, select which offence applies and record it against a member's profile.

ESNZ admins will be able to run a report showing all Official Warnings, and will also be able to report by discipline.

Official Warnings will still be recorded with the date because if a rider receives more than one in a 12 month time period there are further consequences.



# YELLOW CARD OFFICIAL WARNING OVERVIEW

## DURING THE ESNZ EVENT OR AT THE ESNZ VENUE:

- ESNZ Official issues Yellow Card/Official Warning for inappropriate behaviour/ action by ESNZ member (using the tri pad which must be signed by PGJ and Steward/OC).
- ESNZ member accepts the Official Warning card and signs the tri pad.

## IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE EVENT/ INCIDENT:

Contact either your discipline Sport Manager, or ESNZ Reception, and send through all details of the Official Warning, and copy of the signed tri pad, so they can log the Official Warning on the member's database profile. On the database it will look like the below:

Official Cards						
ID	Card Type	Entered By	Entered Date	Active from	Expires on	Status
219	Yellow Card	Enma Gowan	2023-09-24	2023-09-24	2024-09-24	ACTIVE



# FAQS

**Q** What happens if the rider receives two official warnings at one event?

**ANSWER:**

*The person responsible will automatically be suspended for two months immediately following the event (or competition?) at which the rider is competing*

**Q** Who can give out official warning cards?

**ANSWER:**

*Official warnings can be issued by the President of the GJ, President of the Appeal Committee or the Chief Steward*

**Q** Does a non compliance of helmet count as an official warning?

**ANSWER:**

*Non compliance of helmet has it's own consequences. The first time is a warning only, the second time also carries a \$50 fine and the third time will result in a \$250 fine and possible stand down. There is no time limit for these*

**Q** Are riders also eliminated if they are issued with an official warning?

**ANSWER:**

*Not necessarily – they would only be eliminated if they were disqualified under that discipline's rules for elimination. In some instances the official warning may also be for this offence (ie non-compliance with rules)*

