



EQUESTRIAN SPORTS  
NEW ZEALAND

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WELCOME TO

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# Eventing Guide





# Tim Price move aside, I'm going Eventing!

**Equestrian Sports New Zealand (ESNZ) is the National Sports Organisation for Equestrian in New Zealand. ESNZ delivers quality equestrian competitions and administration in conjunction with its five discipline bodies - Eventing, Jumping, Dressage, Endurance and Para.**

Known as the 'triathlon' of Equestrian, both horses and riders are required to be skilled at three different disciplines of riding - dressage, cross-country and jumping - to be able to excel. New Zealand has a rich history in Eventing with numerous medals at the Olympic Games and World Championships. We currently have a strong group of New Zealand based competitors, and also have a lot of depth in our high performance programmes both within New Zealand and overseas.

An Eventing Competition, commonly referred to as a 'Horse Trial', begins with dressage where combinations receive a score from their dressage test. Penalties are then added for any faults during the cross country and jumping (also known as showjumping) tests; the combination with the lowest penalty score at the completion of the event wins.

Eventing in New Zealand has two seasons; the spring season which runs from August to December,

and the autumn season which runs from mid January to May. ESNZ Eventing also has a number of series which see combinations at various levels gaining points from placings at each event, to find overall series winners and place getters which are recognised at the end of season awards.

The eventing year wraps up with the New Zealand Three Day Event Championships in May, which is considered one of the most prestigious events of the season.

New Zealand runs both national level events (CCN) and International (FEI) level events (CCI) throughout the season. These events are run by locally based Organising Committees. In New Zealand we hold events up to 4\* level, which is the second highest level in the world - to date there are only seven 5\* level events around the world (for example Badminton Horse trials in the UK).

Pages 2,5 photo credit - Take the Moment







Page 3 and cover photo  
credit - Jane Thompson

# A Guide to Entering An Event:

All rules and conditions of entry can be found in the ESNZ Eventing Rule book which is online on the ESNZ website under Eventing, Resources. [www.nzequestrian.org.nz](http://www.nzequestrian.org.nz). For the types of classes available please see ESNZ Eventing Rule Article 613. For the age participation requirements for both rider and horse please see ESNZ Eventing Rule Article 614.

The Events calendar and event schedules are listed on our website <https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/disciplines/eventing/competition/>

Eventing has short format events (CCN-S) and long format events (CCN-L) as well as events run under national rules (CCN) and events run under FEI rules (CCI). The height of the jumps is indicated in the class name eg CCN65-S is a short format national event, run over one or two days - depending on the venue and size of the event, with a cross country and jumping height of 65cms.

Most ESNZ Eventing competitions are advertised and entries can be made online via Evo Events [www.evoevents.co.nz](http://www.evoevents.co.nz).

Payment is due to the organising committee once you have entered and before the closing date of entries. How to make payment is listed on the event schedule.

There may be a number of reasons why you need to withdraw from an event. ESNZ Eventing rule article 646 covers refunds and please also read all the conditions of entry as listed in the event schedule.

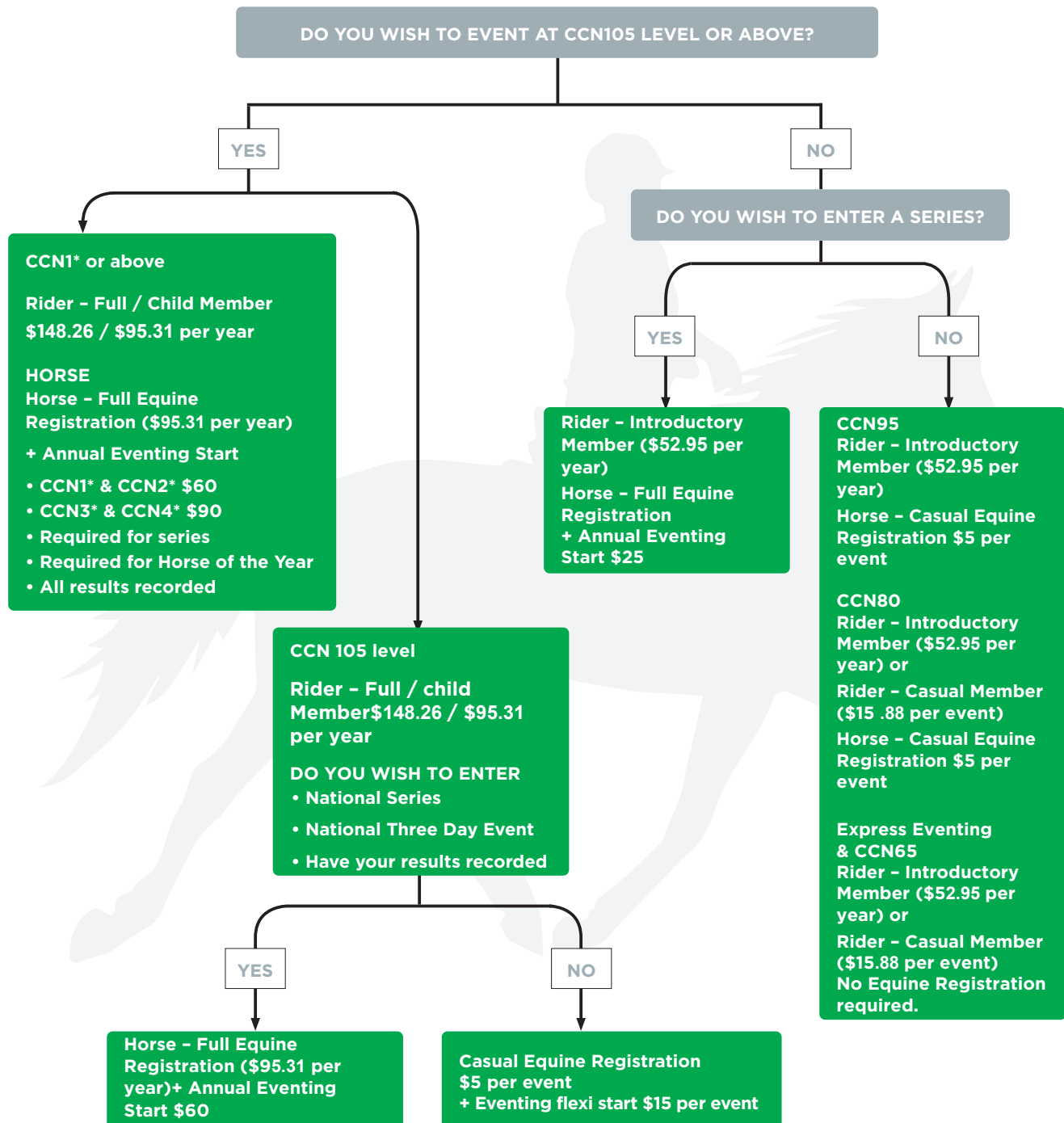
Event schedules will list all the classes available, prizemoney, entry fees, any other fees that are applicable such as yarding, ground levy, medical/ vet fees. Schedules also include any special qualifications you may need for a class, general house keeping rules such as whether dogs are permitted, prize presentations, secretary's contact number and a disclaimer regarding damages that may occur.

**ESNZ/ENZ Registration** – (Please see the table overleaf.) All riders must be ESNZ Members to compete, casual membership is available at \$16.30 per event for competing at CCN80 level and below.

Horse registration and discipline annual start is required for CCN1\* and above, casual equine registration is available for CCN105 and below. Please contact ESNZ membership services team for new memberships or registrations **04 499 8994** or [nzef@nzequestrian.org.nz](mailto:nzef@nzequestrian.org.nz)

## Eventing

# Do I/my horse need to be registered?





# Competitions

Prior to the event, Organising Committees will usually email you your draw, i.e the time you will start your dressage test and when your cross country and jumping will be run, a yarding list and Riders notes.

Contained in the Riders notes is valuable information regarding the Organising Committee's Health and Safety plan, if food is available, perhaps a timetable, helpful phone numbers for the person in charge of yarding, farrier, vet and other things that might be specific to the event grounds. Please always read these notes thoroughly.

## At the Event:

The Event Secretary is your first point of reference – you will go to them to pick up your back number and also the printed programme (if one is available) or class list. If you have any questions about your yarding or timetabling then ask them first. It is a good idea to arrive with plenty of time before your dressage test to give yourself enough time to settle in and get yourself and your horse ready to compete.

You will always do your dressage test first – so make sure you know where your arena is and where you can do your warm up for dressage. Most National (CCN-S) competitions run the jumping second and the Cross Country as the final test but this is not always the case so make sure you know the order for your class. You will be given a start time for dressage prior to the event, and an approximate start time for the jumping tests.

Walking your jumping and XC courses: If you have not walked a jumping or XC course before then it is a good idea to have someone who is more experienced walk the courses with you. You can find a XC course map to view at the start box.





# Some helpful rules:

Here are some rules to get you started, but the best thing you can do is read the rule book. Sometimes there are rule changes, usually these will happen on 1st August for the new season and are usually noted in the 10 Minute Box (Eventing's online newsletter).

## Tips:

- If you don't own a Jacket – Pony Club Uniform is allowed at CCN105 and below.
- Standing Martingales are NOT permitted
- You will need a Back Number Holder and a Back/Body Protector – you may be able to borrow off a friend if you don't own these
- Remember to wear your back number at all times when mounted – this helps the stewards and officials to know who you are.
- For news and information sign up to the Eventing direct email newsletter <https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/subscribe/>

**Saddlery and dress:** Please look up the rules for each test to see what saddlery and dress are allowed for each. They are Article 655 – Dress and 656 – Saddlery. If you have any questions about your dress or tack please ask a steward before you do your warm up.

**Dressage Test:** Dressage tests can be found on the ESNZ website under Eventing Resources. No whips are allowed, gloves must be worn. You can have a caller for CCN80 and below. Three course errors means elimination. For any elimination other than for lameness you are entitled to finish your test.

**Cross Country Test:** An approved, tagged helmet must be worn, along with a Body protector that meets the following standards;

- BETA 2009 Level 3
- BETA 2018 Level 3
- ASTM-F1937.

If you have an airvest, you must also wear a body protector.

In levels CCN105 and below you are eliminated after 4 refusals in total on course or 3 refusals at one jump. A fall of rider and/or horse means elimination. If you are eliminated you need to stop and walk off the course.

At jumps that are close together but are separately numbered you may circle between, however jumps that are a combination and numbered with a single number and letters (eg. 9A, 9B, 9C) you can not circle between or around behind any of the elements once you have jumped the first element otherwise you will be penalised.

**Black Flag alternatives:** Sometimes you are given a choice of which jump you want to jump at a particular number. You will see more than one jump with the same number and/or letter (the flags will have a black stripe on them to let you know there is an alternative). Eg. Jump 9 may have one A element and two B elements which means you have to jump 9A and then you have a choice of one of the two B elements. Refer to ESNZ Eventing Annex 3 XC Faults.



**After any fall you must be checked by the medical team before competing on another horse or leaving the venue.**

**Jumping Test:** In levels CCN105 and below after 3 refusals you are eliminated and in CCN1\* and above if you have 2 refusals you are eliminated.

**If you fall in any phase of the competition, you are eliminated and must be checked by a medic.**

## Identification

### Article 651 Numbers

Your Horse must have a personal identification (ID) tag on, such as an engraved metal disc or cattle ear tag are examples, at all times while at an event. The

identification tag must have on it the owner or rider's name and cell phone number OR the draw number OR a substitute number if provided by the Organiser. When competing the ID tag should be replaced by a bridle number.





# Scoring / queries / protests:

Evo Events often send you a text with your score, but this is not an official score. You have half an hour once the results are posted on the event score board to make any enquiries into your score. If you want to query the score, the secretary will give you a "Query Form" to fill in which will be given to

the Technical Delegate to look into. They will either correct the score or come back to you explaining why you have been given that score. If you are still unhappy you can then put in a protest (on payment of a fee) and then the protest will go to the Chief Cross Country Judge for a decision.

## A Guide to Eventing Officials:

### Eventing officials and what they do

#### Riders Representative:

Every Event will appoint a Riders Representative for each level that is being run. The Riders Rep for your class should be the first person you approach for questions or concerns regarding your course or your competition. They are not there to be your personal coach but they are there to explain things and represent your view to the Officials if you have a complaint or a query. They can also be present if you want to talk to an official or if the official wants to talk to you. There may be several riders who have the same query and using the Riders Rep to go to the officials decreases the time that officials spend answering individual queries. You are however quite entitled to ask a Technical Delegate (TD) directly if you so wish.

#### Stewards:

Stewards should be treated as your friend and the person you go to if you have a query or if you want to check your gear or dress is legal. It is much better to ask early, than be told while you are warming up to compete that you don't have the correct gear and have to go away and change it. They are also there to make sure horses are well cared for and not mistreated. They will be present in the warm up area, especially when it's for the jumping phases. The warm up is important so a steward will make sure you have enough time to warm your horse before going out on the cross country or jumping. Stewards also check the yarding/stabling areas, often late at night to make sure horses have water and everything is as it should be.

#### Technical Delegates:

TDs are there to make sure all the requirements for the event are complying with the rules. They check the dressage arenas, heights, widths and distances for the cross country and jumping courses as well as making sure that the standard of the courses is of

the right difficulty for the level of the competition. TDs will also handle any queries dealing with scoring or incidents that affect the competition. As a rider, if you have concerns about anything, you can go to the TD to ask for help/advice, but it is recommended that you go to your Riders Rep first.

#### Chief Cross Country Judge:

At CCN-S (short format) the Chief Cross Country judge is the head of the event and any queries or matters that need a final decision will be made by the Chief XC Judge and his/her assistant XC judges and/or either the dressage judge or jumping judge if the query is related to their test. They are in overall charge once the TDs have said everything is as it should be.

#### Ground Jury:

In a CCN-L (long format) or a CCI-S or L (events run under FEI rules) the Ground Jury consists of the two or three dressage judges (who are specialist eventing dressage judges and have an overall knowledge of Eventing). They are in charge of their classes and will make all final decisions relating to scoring or incidents, they approve the cross country and together with the Veterinary Delegate they oversee the Horse Inspections (trot ups).

#### Summary

**In summary, there are a lot of people at the event to help you: The Secretary, Riders Representative, Stewards, Technical Delegates, please ask if you need help. Everyone is only too pleased to pass on their knowledge and experience to help you have an enjoyable event.**





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