

**JUMPING EVENTS – FATIGUED HORSES**

**OFFICIAL POLICY**

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It is clear that the fatigue of a horse is a relevant and undesirable risk in jumping events. Inevitably, horses are more likely to commit a mistake in jumping an obstacle when fatigued.

This Official Protocol is intended to provide guidance to the Industry and in particular riders, in an attempt to improve safety and minimize falls.

**In any jumping race or Official Trial, the rider of any horse which becomes fatigued or distressed or otherwise ceases to jump in a competitive manner, shall retire that horse from the event as soon as practical.**

Any rider who rides in any manner in breach of this Official Protocol shall be considered to have failed to comply with a direction of the Stewards (refer Rule AR.175).

Any horse retired from the event shall be examined by the Club's Veterinary Surgeon who shall report to the Stewards.

In the event that a runner retired from an event displays no apparent abnormality or other veterinary condition capable of affecting performance, the Stewards shall order the horse to perform to the Stewards' satisfaction in an Official Trial prior to accepting for a future jumping event.

Riders should understand that this Official Protocol does not interfere with other obligations imposed by the Rules and in particular those under Rules AR.135(b) and AR.137(b).

It shall be the responsibility of any rider who is uncertain of his obligations under this Policy to clarify those concerns prior to taking his ride.