



## ZANEF VETERINARY REGULATIONS

### THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE

#### 1. General Welfare

*a. GOOD HORSE MANAGEMENT*

Stabling and feeding must be compatible with the best Horse management practices. Clean and good quality hay, feed and water must always be available.

*b. TRAINING METHODS*

Horses must only undergo training that matches their physical capabilities and level of maturity for their respective disciplines. They must not be subjected to methods which are abusive or cause fear.

*c. FARRIERY AND TACK*

Foot care and shoeing must be of a high standard. Tack must be designed and fitted to avoid the risk of pain or injury.

*d. TRANSPORT*

During transportation, Horses must be fully protected against injuries and other health risks. Vehicles must be safe, well ventilated, maintained to a high standard, disinfected regularly and driven by competent personnel. Competent handlers must always be available to manage the Horses.

*e. TRANSIT*

All journeys must be planned carefully, and Horses allowed regular rest periods with access to food and water in line with current FEI guidelines.

#### 2. Fitness to compete

*a. FITNESS AND COMPETENCE*

Participation in Competition must be restricted to fit Horses and Athletes of proven competence. Horses must be allowed suitable rest period between training and competitions; additional rest periods should be allowed following travelling.

*b. HEALTH STATUS*

No Horse deemed unfit to compete may compete or continue to compete, veterinary advice must be sought whenever there is any doubt.

*c. DOPING AND MEDICATION*

Any action or intent of doping and illicit use of medication constitute a serious welfare issue and will not be tolerated. After any veterinary treatment, sufficient time must be allowed for full recovery before Competition.

d. *SURGICAL PROCEDURES*

Any surgical procedures that threaten a competing Horse's welfare or the safety of other Horses and/or Athletes must not be allowed.

e. *PREGNANT/RECENTLY FOALED MARES*

Mares must not compete after their fourth month of pregnancy or with foal at foot.

f. *MISUSE OF AIDS*

Abuse of a Horse using natural riding aids or artificial aids (e.g. whips, spurs, etc.) will not be tolerated.

3. EVENTS MUST NOT PREJUDICE HORSE WELFARE

a. *COMPETITION AREAS*

Horses must be trained and compete on suitable and safe surfaces. All obstacles and competition conditions must be designed with the safety of the Horse in mind.

b. *GROUND SURFACES*

All ground surfaces on which Horses walk, train or compete must be designed and maintained to reduce factors that could lead to injury.

c. *EXTREME WEATHER*

Competitions must not take place in extreme weather conditions that may compromise welfare or safety of the Horse. Provision must be made for cooling conditions and equipment for Horses after competing.

d. *STABLING AT EVENTS*

Stables must be safe, hygienic, comfortable, well ventilated and of sufficient size for the type and disposition of the Horse. Washing-down areas and water must always be available.

4. HUMANE TREATMENT OF HORSES

a. *VETERINARY TREATMENT*

Veterinary expertise must always be available at an Event. If a Horse is injured or exhausted during a Competition, the Athlete must stop competing and a veterinary evaluation must be performed.

b. *REFERRAL CENTRES*

Wherever necessary, Horses should be collected by ambulance and transported to the nearest relevant treatment centre for further assessment and therapy. Injured Horses must be given full supportive treatment before being transported.

c. *COMPETITION INJURIES*

The incidence of injuries sustained in Competition should be monitored. Ground surface conditions, frequency of Competitions and any other risk factors should be examined carefully to indicate ways to minimise injuries.

d. *EUTHANASIA*

If injuries are sufficiently severe a Horse may need to be euthanized on humane grounds by a veterinarian as soon as possible, with the sole aim of minimising suffering.

e. *RETIREMENT*

Horses must be treated sympathetically and humanely when they retire from Competition.

5. EDUCATION

The FEI urges all those involved in equestrian sport to attain the highest possible levels of education in areas of expertise relevant to the care and management of the Competition Horse.

FOR ALL COMPETITIONS HELD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF ZANEF THE FOLLOWING VETERINARY RULES WILL APPLY.

1. IDENTIFICATION AND VACCINATION

Every horse or pony must be micro chipped and have a valid passport showing the information as set out in the ZANEF Showjumping grading rules and horse and athlete registration section 1.2, and the information must be up to date showing that the horse or pony has been vaccinated against a minimum of AHS, Rabies and tetanus.

2. PARASITE CONTROL

Where possible, proof should be provided giving evidence that both tick and deworming programmes are in force.

3. TESTING

Random dope testing and checks for any of the above may be carried out and if found to be outdated or erroneous, the horse or pony may be disqualified and the owner advised to remove the horse or pony from the venue.

All horses or ponies arriving at a show must have a temperature chart available for the veterinarian on duty to check and no horse or pony having a temperature in excess of 38.5° C should be brought to the show venue. Any horse or pony with a temperature greater than 38.5° C during the show must be isolated and reported immediately to the veterinarian on duty.

4. FITNESS

Any concerns expressed over the condition of any horse or pony will be investigated and photographs may be taken for forwarding to at least three veterinarians for their opinion. Any horse or pony deemed to have a "body score" below 4, or above 8 will be classed as unfit to compete.

Ribs		
Score	Definition	
1	Poor	Underweight - take action
2	Very thin	
3	Thin	
4	Lean	Continue to monitor
5	Moderate	
6	Moderately fleshy	
7	Fleshy	Overweight - take action
8	Fat	
9	Obese	

Excessive riding outside of competitions / classes at venues during shows is discouraged and will be monitored by stewards and judges.

5. COMPETING VETERINARIANS

Veterinarians may not officiate at an event they are competing in.

## 6. AGE AND HEIGHT OF HORSES AND PONIES

Ponies' regulatory height at the withers must not exceed: 148cm without shoes and 149cm with shoes (Ponies 8 years or older will receive a lifetime certificate, ponies younger than 8 years will receive a 15 months interim certificate)

See the different discipline regulations regarding age as they have different age limits.

## 7. GENERAL

All horse owners are advised to comply with the Laws of Zambia regarding Vaccinations and animal health.

Where these requirements are silent, the current FEI Veterinarian regulations will apply. Any penalties will be in line with the FEI Veterinary Regulations and Rules.