

MSEDA Rules & Guidelines for Starter Level Events and Combined Tests

Revised /2022

The rules and guidelines for Eventing will follow the rules set forth by the USEF and USEA for the Beginner Novice through Advanced Levels. While Beginner Novice is recognized by USEA/USEF, Starter is not recognized by either organization. MSEDA has established the following suggested guidelines to assist organizers, Officials, and Competitors.

Dressage:

2022 USEA Starter Test is **RECOMMENDED**, though USEF Beginner Novice Test A may also be used.

Cross Country:

Length: 1,000-1,500 meters

Speed: 300-325 mpm

Speed Fault Time: 400 mpm

Height: Solid—2'3", Brush—2'7"

Spread: Highest Point—2'7", Base Spread/without Height—3'0"

Efforts: 10-14

Refer to EV Appendix 1.1.b for guidelines regarding obstacles on Cross Country, except where listed below:

- No drops, only small step up; a simple water crossing may be used with a simple option available; no combinations; ditches must have a simple option available.
- Starter divisions must be timed to be eligible for year-end awards.
- Recommended to have all Cross Country jumps staked.

Stadium:

Length: 600 meters maximum

Height: 2'3"

Overall spreads of Oxers: 2'7"

Speed: 275-300 mpm

Jumping Efforts: 8-11

- No square or Swedish oxers, fans, triple bars, or combinations.
- Overall width of oxers must include any solid or decorative ground lines.
- Lines preferably be a minimum of 84 feet or more in length.
- Unsecured rails on the ground, including one side of a rail for a slanted filler, and cedar laying on the ground must not be used for ground lines. Should flower boxes, walls, decorative free-standing filler be used, care must be taken to ensure that these do not exceed more than 2" in front of the vertical plane of the front rail of oxers or the front leading edge of vertices. Single flower boxes, walls, or decorative free-standing filler placed directly in the middle of the jump that measures less than 8' should not be used without additional fill on the outside dimensions of the jumpable face of the fence. Gates and rails that come within 6" of the ground are also acceptable.
- The use of approved Safety cups must be used in warm-up and competition arenas, wooden dowels are no longer acceptable.
- Starter divisions must be timed to be eligible for year end awards.