

# **Veterinary Forms and Shoeing Forms**

# Explanations how to use the forms

There are five different forms:

## **VET FORM 1**

For events with a specific "fit to compete check" made by a veterinary surgeon before the event starts. This form must be completed by a veterinary surgeon.

One form per horse must be completed for every horse at the event. The forms must be available at track-side for subsequent checks.

## **VET FORM 2**

For events with mouth control only after a test or a final and/or for new findings after using Vet Form 1. Vet Form 2 must be used at events without a "fit to compete" check. This form may be completed by either a veterinary surgeon or a judge.

## When completing either Form 1 or Form 2....

- Provide as much information as possible.
- If the form is completed as part of a "fit to compete" check enter that as the "test".
- The person completing the form must write his/her name clearly in the "judge" area. Do not use initials or a signature.
- Indicate with a cross where all observed injuries are located.
- Indicate with a mark on the appropriate diagram where each injury is located.
- Make notes as needed on the diagram to be clear which mark corresponds to which injury if there are multiple injuries observed.
- Circle the score for each observed injury and compute the total score.
- All horses with 4 or more points must be excused / disqualified.

Refer to the example form at the end of this document.

# VET FORM 3

For the entrance check at any event, to check identity, basic health and the required documents.

# **VET FORM 4**

For the basic fit to compete check for horses that have to be re-checked of the check before the start of the event or for countries with a daily fit to compete check .

## SHOEING FORM

For events with a specific shoe check before the start of the event (like World Championships), to register shoes, soles and rings.

FORMS 1-5 have to be kept together per horse to inform judges and ring stewards about the health condition of the horse and to provide other relevant information. At major events the sets of forms should be available for ring stewards (performing the equipment check) in the starting order of the horses per test.

An OVERVIEW VET FORM is available to report the number of participating horses, the number of checked horses and the number of horses with lacerations per test to be reported to your national association.

For WorldRanking events the forms should be submitted to the national WorldRanking Registrar responsible for the event. FEIF may request the forms at any time up to the end of the calendar year.

The forms have to be prepared by the organizer of the event. IceTest, the free competition software of FEIF, is able to print the forms per horse. The forms are also available for download from the FEIF website: www.feif.org/download.

## How to perform the mouth control

- 1. Put on new non-sterile examination gloves.
- 2. Check the tightness of the noseband.
- 3. Ask the rider to put on the horse's halter.
- 4. Make contact to the horse.
- 5. Start by looking at the outside of the mouth and the surroundings for visible injuries and blood in connection with the bridle.
- 6. Stand in front of the horse, preferably.
- 7. Start with gentle palpation of the mouth corners with your thumb on the inside and your index finger on the outside. Now you get the information whether the horse is sensitive to this palpation or not.
- 8. Due to palpation most horses will open their mouth and when you bend over to one side you can easily look at the opposite inside of the mouth. Now you can get the information of the opposite buccal mucosa, opposite inside of the mouth corner, the tongue and palatum mucosa and also the bars on the side where you stand. Do it on both sides.
- 9. If you have no clear sight of the mouth corners, you can turn each mouth corner inside out.
- 10. If you see a bruise or swollen tissue on the bars palpate it gently, to find out if it is sensitive or not.
- 11. If the horse is not cooperative with opening the mouth it might help to grasp the tongue and pull it out.
- 12. Write down what you have seen.
- 13. Thank the rider for the cooperation.
- 14. Never forget: The aim of these controls is to assure the horse's welfare. Make sure to act carefully.
- 15. Act efficiently if the process takes too long it will bother horse (and rider).



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# Procedure for World Championships and other major events

#### Checks after tests on the oval track

After the test a ring steward accompanies each rider to the check. During the checks the following persons are present: 2 ring stewards and the deputy chief judge and, if necessary, the veterinary surgeon.

When leaving the track it is not allowed to change any equipment without the ring stewards' permission. It is not permitted to feed the horse. Ring steward 1 is responsible for the mouth control. Ring steward 2 is responsible to measure the whip, the shoe check and the control of the boots and possible limb injuries.

The responsible judge (at World Championships the Deputy Chief Judge) has to be present but not necessarily directly supervising the inspections. If the ring stewards or rider is in doubt, they must immediately consult the responsible judge. If the responsible judge is in doubt he/she must consult the vet on duty.

The area for the checks should be a quiet place, not too far from the oval track.

Not more than two persons per horse are allowed in the control area. There should be a horse stable nearby for horses that cannot be examined in a safe way in the control area.

#### Checks after oval track finals

The horses should be examined in the same sequence as they leave the track. A waiting area should be available for those horses waiting for their checks.

For the finals a map with the files of the horses participating in the finals shall be prepared so that the responsible judge and stewards have an overview of the history of the horses at the event.

#### Checks after test on the pace track

There should be a designated area where the horses have the opportunity to calm down; ring stewards will control this area. The boots and the noseband must be checked before riders are allowed to open the nosebands or remove the boots. This check should be performed as soon as possible to allow the horses to rest comfortably.

To give the ring stewards a better overview they should be given a list of those horses where injuries had been noticed before together with the checking history of the horses that are entered for the test.

#### Procedure for other events (WorldRanking and national level)

#### Checks after oval track tests

A national approved and educated judge should perform the check. A veterinary surgeon should be available on call.

When leaving the track it is not allowed to change any parts of the equipment without the judge's permission. It is not allowed to feed the horses. The judge is responsible for the



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mouth control, to measure the whip, the shoe check and the control of the boots and possible injuries.

If the judge is in doubt he/she should consult the chief judge. If necessary the vet on duty must be consulted.

There should be a quiet place, not too far from the oval track to perform the checks. No more than two persons per horse are allowed in the control area.

#### Checks after oval track finals

The horses should be examined in the same sequence as they leave the track. A waiting area should be available for those horses waiting for their checks.

For the finals a folder with the files of the horses participating in that final shall be prepared so that the judge has an overview of the checking history (including the injuries that were noticed before) of the horses.

As many judges as possible should perform the checks to keep the process as fast as possible out of respect for the horses and riders. If there are more horses than riders a judge or steward must be assigned to watch the horses waiting for checks to make sure the riders do not change the equipment, feed their horses, or handle any wounds.

The veterinary surgeon should be called in case of doubt.

#### Checks after test on the pace track

There should be an area where the horses are given the opportunity to calm down for some minutes, which will be controlled by helpers. The boots and the noseband have to be checked before the riders open the noseband or remove the boots.

To give the judges a better overview they should be given a list of those horses where injuries had been noticed before together with the checking history of the horses that are entered for the test.

A secretary has to assist the judge doing the mouth controls, to fill in the forms. The veterinary surgeon should be on stand-by during these controls.

It is up to the judges and the organization to work out a practical way for the controls.

#### What to do when there are lacerations in the mouth?

- 1. Inform the rider about the changes/or lacerations that were noticed.
- 2. Document the findings on the correct Vet Form (1 or 2) and possibly the summary form.
- 3. Calculate the "wound" score and act accordingly.



