

Discipline Matrix

Standard ⁱ	Failure to Meet Standard 1st Infraction ⁱⁱ	Failure to Meet Standard 2nd Infraction ⁱⁱⁱ	Failure to Meet Standard 3rd Infraction ^{iv}	Notes
1. <i>Polite, productive communication in public setting</i>	Warning and education on alternative actions by Steward; appropriate apology(ies) encouraged to be made	Disqualification ^v (DQ) from event; Steward may attempt further education on more productive alternative actions	6-month ban from EDRA events	
2. <i>Safe riding described as follows: not tailgating, passing in a safe manner, following ride manager's specific safety or trail conservation rules, etc.</i>	Warning and education by Steward; apology(ies) to party(ies) endangered; possible DQ depending on level of infraction	DQ from event; further education from Steward; potential 3-month ban	6-month to 1-year ban; potential permanent ban	Serious harm can be done to equines and humans; legal liability may attach.
3. <i>Safe conduct expected while at event venue, on the trail and in ride camp</i>	Warning and education by Steward; apology(ies) to party(ies) endangered; possible DQ depending on level of infraction	DQ from event; further education from Steward; potential 3-month ban	6-month to 1-year ban; potential permanent ban	
4. <i>Positive sportsmanship such as yielding the trail in a reasonable time, staying on marked trail, following EDRA and venue rules, gracious competitor, etc.</i>	Warning and education by Steward; apology(ies) to party(ies) affected; possible loss of placing; cutting trail intentionally is automatic DQ	DQ from event; further education from Steward	3-month to 1-year ban, depending on seriousness of behavior	
5. <i>Physical altercation including contact is never accepted among humans (such as hitting, pushing, kicking)</i>	Local authorities will be contacted. Possible DQ depending on level of infraction	Local authorities will be contacted again; 1-year ban	Lifetime ban	

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<p>6. Safe horse -- Horses shall be controlled appropriately and warnings placed on horses with issues. "Appropriately" means that the average horse would be safely obedient to the average handler</p>	<p>Warning and education by Steward; remove and possibly DQ horse from event; follow-up education to handler by EDRA Mentor who is qualified to address such equine behavior</p>	<p>DQ from event and leave event grounds; must document receiving assistance in training horse</p>	<p>3-month to 6-month ban for horse; must document receiving assistance in training horse</p> <p>Permanent ban for horse in question if behavior continues</p>	<p>Serious injury to human or equine participants is possible</p>
<p>7. Full payment at time of entry to ride manager or EDRA (i.e. no bounced checks)</p>	<p>DQ from event; make financial amends within 5-days or loss of documented mileage/points will be permanent</p>	<p>6-month ban</p>	<p>1-year ban</p>	
<p>8. Follow event rules and regulations (Clean/zero trace camp, restrictions on fires and smoking, dogs on leashes, controlled starts, racing at finish, etc.)</p>	<p>Possible DQ depending on level of infraction; if done intentionally, DQ with no documented points/miles; written apology to those impacted; EDRA Board may assign service work at another ride with ride ban until work is performed</p>	<p>DQ from event; further service work may be assigned</p>	<p>3-month ban</p>	<p>This behavior is a legal liability for ride managers and jeopardizes the manager's permit; it could cause the loss of the ride for everyone.</p>
<p>9. Follow EDRA requirements such as wearing a helmet while mounted, verifiable horse age, etc.</p>	<p>Warning and education by EDRA steward; not allowed to start if rider does not have a helmet and cannot locate one before ride or refuses to wear a helmet. If caught riding without a helmet, DQ from event. Falsifying equine age will result in DQ. Education from Steward.</p>	<p>6-month ban</p>	<p>1-year ban</p>	

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10. Negative equine drug test below threshold established by FEI standards	See Drug & Medication Rule, Appendix C	See Drug & Medication Rule, Appendix C	See Drug & Medication Rule, Appendix C	See Drug & Medication Rule, Appendix C
11. Misuse of EDRA Logbook	Education by Steward	Warning; refusal can result in DQ.	Warning; refusal can result in DQ.	
12. Safe horse containment. “Safe” is defined as any of the following, or as defined by the Steward at a ride: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tied to trailer, • Hi-Tie, • High line, • 1 horse per pen, • Metal, aluminum or PVC corrals, • Energized electric fencing, minimum 2-stands and can touch areas of equine skin when blanketed 	Warning and education by Steward; must correct containment	3-month ban	6-month ban	Putting other equines and humans at risk; potential property damage
13. Welfare of Equine – appropriate handling techniques; appropriate riding (to the horse’s level of fitness). Following ride veterinarian advice – appropriate care of the equine in camp.	Education by Steward and/or veterinarian; possible DQ	DQ and 3-month to 6-month ban	DQ and 1-year ban	Possible result in injury or death of equine (as a result of abuse or neglect of care)
14. Equine body score between 3-8 is required to be eligible to enter an event. Score is determined by ride veterinarian	Education by veterinarian and/or Steward			

ⁱ **This list of Standards is not exhaustive. These are the types of behaviors that will result in discipline, but the list may be expanded to those not envisioned but which ultimately occur.**

These standards provide an initial framework to guide EDRA in disciplinary actions, yet allow flexibility to select the appropriate sanction in each particular case. The sanction imposed may depend on the presence of aggravating or mitigating factors, as follows:

Aggravating factors include:

- Prior disciplinary offenses (including those with other sanctioning organizations)
- dishonest or selfish motive
- A pattern of misconduct
- Multiple offenses
- Bad faith obstruction of the disciplinary proceeding by intentionally failing to comply with rules or orders of EDRA
- Submission of false evidence, false statements or other deceptive practices during disciplinary process
- Refusal to acknowledge wrongful nature of conduct
- Vulnerability of victim
- Substantial experience in the equine distance riding
- Indifference to making restitution.

Mitigating factors include:

- Absence of prior disciplinary record
- Absence of dishonest or selfish motive
- Personal or emotional problems
- Timely good faith effort to make restitution or to rectify consequences of misconduct
- Full and free disclosure to disciplinary board or cooperative attitude toward proceedings
- Inexperience in equine distance riding or other equine discipline
- Character or reputation in equine distance riding
- Physical or mental disability or impairment
- Delay in disciplinary proceedings
- Interim rehabilitation
- Imposition of other penalties or sanctions
- Remorse
- Remoteness of prior offenses

Ultimate disposition of discipline should be public in cases of suspension or more severe sanctions. Only in cases of minor misconduct, when there is little or no injury to a rider, equine or riding community and when there is little likelihood of repetition by the accused, should private discipline be imposed.

The purposes of sanctions can best be served, and the consistency of those sanctions enhanced, if disciplinary organizations articulate the reasons for the sanctions imposed. Therefore, EDRA will strive to explain the imposition of each specific sanction for education about the sport and to provide structure and precedent for subsequent cases.

STEWARD EXPECTATIONS:

EDRA will provide, or appoint, at least one Steward at each EDRA sanctioned ride.

ON-SITE INVESTIGATION RESPONSIBILITIES OF EDRA STEWARD

- Collect full and independent statements, preferably recorded, from each party involved as well as witnesses. The idea that statements taken, and evidence accumulated close in time to the occurrence is more valuable than what is recalled after the passage of time.
- Determine if any injury(ies) occurred and extent—to either horse(s) or rider(s) or both.
- Gather any applicable photos or documentary, or non-documentary evidence.

If, in consultation with the ride manager, a determination can be made of corrective action to be taken (e.g. counseling, coaching, etc.), do so while still at ride event. Such action needs to be completely objective, and consistent with previous actions taken by EDRA in other similar situations.

EDRA will provide a printed version of EDRA rules for Stewards to have with them at the ride, since many ride locations don't have internet access. Stewards will be available to assist ride managers and riders.

ⁱⁱ Recorded in Steward's report; names optional

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^{iv} Recorded in Steward's report; names included

^v Disqualification results in loss of documented mileage and points from the entered event