



ATHLETIC EQUESTRIAN LEAGUE

2023-24 Fences Score Sheet Judging Guidelines

36-40: Excellent equitation, position, presentation and use of arena. Meets all fences squarely and at proper distance. Uses all options to their advantage. Completes tests with skill.

26-35: Minor equitation faults. Long, weak or deep departure. Rider still maintains a quality ride. Completes tests with skill.

16-25: Equitation suffers; rounded shoulders, heels not down, hands incorrect, lacks style and presence. One major fence problem; chip with a ride up the neck or counter/cross canter. No dangerous fences but not a flowing course. Tests suffer through rider error.

6-15: Major equitation faults; poor body position, loose legs and seat, two or three misses at the fences. A loss of stirrup or loss of reins is an automatic 15. Tests suffer through rider error.

0-5: Rider avoids elimination. Dangerous fences.

If rider goes off course, once course is corrected score can be no higher than a 15. Three refusals is an automatic elimination. Refusals and/or break of gait are -10 for first offense and -20 for second. Judge circles the negative at the bottom of the sheet.

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- * In order to effectively determine a score for each rider, the judge should watch the entire fences tests and have the scribe write as much information as possible in the “Comments” section at the right of the scoresheet. The judge will then mark their total score in the left column based on the scoring scale.
 - * Riders are not scored against the others in the section, they are scored against the ideals at the top of this page. In other words, you do not “place” the class, you could possibly have identical scores for multiple riders. The riders will have their flat and practicum scores added to their fences total which will place the class.
 - * If a rider goes off course, the judge shall ring a bell or blow a whistle to stop the rider. The rider can then consult with their coach or the Steward to determine where to get back on course. The rider can score no higher than a 15.
 - * If a rider has all the “ideals” at one level of scoring but is weak in one area, the judge should mark them at the lower end of the higher scale.