

# Understanding the Basics of Eventing

## *Types of Events*

### **Short Format<sup>^</sup>**

#### **National (CNC)**

CNC EvA80, CNC EvA95, CNC EvA105, EvA105.5<sup>#</sup> and CNC1\*, CNC1.5\*, CNC2\*\*, CNC2.5\*\* and CNC\*\*\* – are all National Horse Trials of short format and follow the National Eventing Rules.

The National Eventing Rules can be found here: [National Eventing Rules](#).

#### **International (CIC)**

Introductory (equivalent to EvA105), CIC\*, CIC\*\* and CIC\*\*\* - are all International Horse Trials of short format and follow the FEI Eventing Rules and they can be found here: [FEI Eventing Rules](#)

### **Long Format<sup>^</sup>**

#### **National (CCN)**

CCN EvA80, CCN EvA95, CCN EvA105 and CCN\* CCN\*\* and CCN\*\*\* – are all National Horse Trials of long format and follow the National Eventing Rules.

#### **International (CCI)**

Introductory, CCI\*, CCI \*\*, CCI\*\*\* and CCI \*\*\*\* - are all International Horse Trials of long format and follow the FEI Eventing Rules.

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<sup>^</sup> Short Format – Dressage, Showjumping and Cross Country tests usually completed over one or two days, but can be completed over three consecutive days. The Show Jumping test may be before or after the Cross Country test, the Cross Country is of a shorter duration than the Long Format Horse Trials.

<sup>#</sup> The .5 classes consist of the Cross Country test at the class level and the Dressage and Show Jumping tests at the level above. For example CNC1.5\* has CNC1\* cross country and CNC2\* dressage test and showjumping tests.

<sup>^</sup> Long Format - A Long format Competition may take place over three or more days. The Dressage Test will be spread over one or more consecutive days, depending on the number of competitors, directly followed on the next day by the Cross Country Test that will be directly followed on the next day by the Jumping Test. In the Long format Competitions the Cross Country course will be of such a length that the Horse is required to be supremely fit and stamina will be required for success. The Cross Country Test will always take place before the Jumping Test.

## ***Summary Table of Cross Country Lengths***

### **Short Format**

#### **CNC and CIC**

<b>Level</b>	<b>Distance (m)</b>		<b>Efforts</b>		<b>Speed (m/min)</b>	<b>Time</b>	
	Min	Max	Min	Max		Min	Max
EvA80	1500	2500	15	25	400	3 min 45 sec	6 min 15 sec
EvA95	2000	3000	15	25	450	4 min 26 sec	6 min 40 sec
EvA105/Introductory	2000	3000	20	25	500	4 min 0 sec	6 min 0 sec
CNC1*/CNC1.5* /CIC*	2600	3120	25	30	520	5 min 0 sec	6 min 0 sec
CNC** /CNC2.5*/CIC**	3025	3575	27	32	550	5 min 30 sec	6 min 30 sec
CNC*** /CIC***	3420	3990	30	35	570	6 min 0 sec	7 min 0 sec

### **Long Format**

#### **CCN and CCI**

<b>Level</b>	<b>Distance (m)</b>		<b>Efforts</b>		<b>Speed (m/min)</b>	<b>Time</b>	
	Min	Max	Min	Max		Min	Max
CCN EvA80	2400	2800	15	26	400	6 min 0 sec	7 min 0 sec
CCN EvA95	2700	3375	15	26	450	6 min 0 sec	7 min 30 sec
CCN EvA105/ Introductory	3000	4000	20	27	500	6 min 0 sec	8 min 0 sec
CCN1* / CCI*	3640	4680	25	30	520	7 min 0 sec	9 min 0 sec
CCN ** / CCI **	4400	5500	30	35	550	8 min 0 sec	10 min 0 sec
CCN *** / CCI ***	5700	6270	35	40	570	10 min 0 sec	11 min 0 sec
CCI****	6270	6840	40	45	570	11 min 0 sec	12 min 0 sec

### ***Age of Athletes***

An Athlete is considered a Senior from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 18.

Level	Age	Express Permission
CNC*** /CCN***	Senior Athletes Only	NO
CNC** /CCN**	Senior Athletes	YES - from the beginning of the calendar year in which the rider turns 16
CNC* /CCN*	Senior Athletes	YES - from the beginning of the calendar year in which the rider turns 14
Young Rider Classes 1* or 2*	The beginning of the calendar year in which the rider reaches age of 16 until the end of the calendar year in which the rider reaches the age of 21.	YES -With express permission (if required for the level as described above) from the National Federation, an athlete may compete in a Young Rider Class
Junior One Star (CNCJ*/CCNJ*)	The beginning of the calendar year in which the rider reaches the age of 14 until the end of the calendar year in which the rider reaches the age of 18.	YES -With express permission (if required for the level as described above) from his National Federation, an athlete may compete in a Junior Class
CNC/CCN EvA105	From the beginning of the calendar year in which the rider reaches the age of 13.	NO
CNC/CCN EvAJ105 Classes	From the beginning of the calendar year in which the rider reaches the age of 13 until the end of the calendar year in which the rider reaches the age of 18.	NO
CNC/CCN EvA95 Classes	From the beginning of the calendar year in which the rider turns 10. Riders under the age of 13 must have completed an EvA80.	NO
CNC/CCN EvA80 Classes:	From the beginning of the calendar year in which the rider turns 8.	NO

### ***Express Permission***

**What is Express Permission?**

Express Permission must be sought from Equestrian Australia's Eventing Committee via your State Branch for a junior rider (below the year they turn 18), wanting to compete at 1\* or 2\* competitions.

### **How Do You Apply For it?**

The form to apply for Express Permission can be found on the Eventing section of Equestrian Victoria's website or [HERE](#)

Having completed 5 MER's does not guarantee endorsement by the State Eventing Committee.

The State Eventing Sub Committee will either:

- Endorse Express Permission and will forward the recommendation to the National Eventing Committee or
- The State Eventing Sub Committee will advise the applicant that they are not endorsed for Express Permission and what is required to attain the endorsement.

### **Registration Requirements**

<b>Level</b>	<b>Rider</b>		<b>Horse</b>			
	<b>EA Registration</b>	<b>FEI Registration</b>	<b>EA Registration</b>	<b>EA Competition Licence</b>	<b>FEI Registration</b>	<b>FEI/EA Passport<sup>#</sup></b>
EvA80	Yes – can be Participation Registration	No	No-but recommended	No	No	No
EvA95	Yes – Competitive Registration	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
EvA105/ Introductory	Yes – Competitive Registration	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
CNC1*/CNC 1.5*/CCN*	Yes – Competitive Registration	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
CNC**/ CNC2.5/CC N**	Yes – Competitive Registration	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
CNC***/ CCN***	Yes – Competitive Registration	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
CIC*/CCI*	Yes – Competitive Registration	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	EA Passport - Yes –
CIC**/CCI**	Yes – Competitive Registration	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	EA Passport - Yes –
CIC***/CCI* **/CCI****	Yes – Competitive Registration	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	FEI Passport - Yes

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<sup>#</sup> EA Passport is not required for horses that have been registered with the FEI prior to 2017.



## ***Qualifications***

### **Minimum Eligibility Requirement (MER)**

A Minimum Eligibility Requirement is achieved by completing a Competition within minimum parameters of all round performance as follows:

- a) Dressage Test: not more than 45 penalty points (or 55%).
- b) Cross Country Test:
  - a clear round at obstacles
  - not more than 75 seconds exceeding the optimum time in the Cross Country Test for all level Competitions and 100 seconds in the case of four star level Competitions.
- c) Showjumping Test: not more than 16 jumping penalties.

### **Exceptions for MERs:**

- a) The 1st activation of a frangible/deformable device (11 penalties) will allow a MER.
- b) When multiple Minimum Eligibility Requirements are required (for CIs and CIOs), one of the Minimum Eligibility Requirements can be achieved incurring 20 penalties at the obstacles of the Cross Country Test.

### **MER's must be achieved:**

- a) At least 24 days before the Cross Country Test of the Competition for which is needed, if the MER has been achieved at a Long format Competition (CCIs).
- b) At least 10 days before the Cross Country Test of the Competition for which is needed, if it has been achieved at a Short format Competition (CICs).

## ***EA Minimum Eligibility Requirements (applies to National Events)***

**A rider becomes Established at a level when they have achieved 15 MERs at that level over an 8 year rolling period.**

### **Short Format CNC and CIC\* Requirements**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Rider Level Established</b>	<b>Not Established At A Level</b>
<b>CNC***</b>	Established 3* Riders the horse must have 3 MERs at 2* Level	3 MER's at 2* Level as a combination
<b>CNC**</b>	Established 2* & 3* Riders the horse must have 3 MERs at 1* Level	3 MER's at 1* Level as a combination
<b>CNC*/CIC*</b>	Established 1* & 2* Riders the horse must have 3 MERs at EvA 105 or FEI Introductory Level	3 MER's at EvA 105 or FEI Introductory Level as a combination
	Established 3* Riders the horse may have no MERs at any level	
	Established 105, 1*, 2* and 3* Riders no MERs required	3 MER's at EvA95 Level as a combination

<b>CNC EvA105</b>		
<b>CNC EvA95</b>	Established 105, 1*, 2* and 3* Riders no MERs required	Riders Not Established at any Level - no MERs required
<b>CNC EvA80</b>	Established 105, 1*, 2* and 3* Riders no MERs required	Riders Not Established at any Level - no MERs required

### Long Format CCN

<b>Class</b>	<b>Rider Level Established</b>	<b>Not Established At A Level</b>
<b>CCN EvA105</b>	Established 105, 1*, 2* and 3* Riders no MERs required	Not Established Riders EvA105 or 1 CCN95 or 1 PC Championship at A grade or grade 1. (Jnrs as a combination)
<b>CCN EvA95</b>	Established 105, 1*, 2* and 3* Riders no MERs required	Not Established Riders 1x EvA95 (Jnrs as a combination)
<b>CCN EvA80</b>	Established 105, 1*, 2* and 3* Riders no MERs required	Not Established Riders 1x EvA95 (Jnrs as a combination)

### *FEI Athletes Categories*

FEI Athlete categories for Eventing define a recognition of proven competence of the Athlete at a certain level.

Athletes will be categorised (National, D, C, B, A) according to their performance in a rolling eight years period as defined in the following table. If an athlete does not meet the criteria to be categorised, they are classed as uncategorised.

Athletes categories can be found on the FEI Database.

D	Fifteen (15) MER at FEI short (CICs) or long (CCIs) format Competitions of one star level or above; or five (5) MERs at FEI short (CICs) or long format (CCIs) competitions at a higher level
C	Fifteen (15) MER at FEI short (CICs) or long (CCIs) format Competitions of two star level or above; or five (5) MERs at FEI short (CICs) or long format (CCIs) competitions at a higher level
B	Fifteen (15) MER at FEI short (CICs) or long (CCIs) format Competitions of three star level or above; or five (5) MERs at FEI short (CICs) or long format (CCIs) competitions at a higher level
A	Fifteen (15) MER at FEI short (CICs) or long (CCIs) format Competitions of three star level or above of which five at four star level

The Athlete category will be updated according to the performances on 1<sup>st</sup> July and at the end of each calendar year taking into account the relevant rolling eight years.

### ***EA Minimum Eligibility Requirements (applies to FEI Events)***

- FEI MER's are to be achieved as a combination except when the Rider is already categorised
- When multiple Minimum Eligibility Requirements are required (for CIs and CIOs), one of the Minimum Eligibility Requirements can be achieved incurring 20 penalties at the obstacles of the Cross Country Test
- MER's in **bold** font signifies FEI requirements
- MER's in *italic* font signifies National Federation requirements

Class	Category of Rider	MER Requirements
CCI4*	A	1x CCI3* (as a combination) + 2x CIC/CNC3*
	B	1x CCI3* + 3x CIC3* + 1xCIG/CNC3*
	C	2x CCI3* + 2x CIC3* + 1x CIC/CNC3*
	D or uncategorised	2x CCI3* + 2x CIC3* + 1x CIC/CNC3*
CCI3*	A	1x CCI2* + 2x CIC/CNC2* (any time frame) or 1xCIG/CNC2* in previous 12 months + 1x CIC/CNC3* or 1x CCI/CCN2*
	B	1x CCI2* + 2x CIC/CNC2* (any time frame) or 1xCIG/CNC2* in previous 12 months + 1x CIC/CNC3* or 1x CCI/CCN2*
	C	1x CCI2* + 1x CIC3* + 1x (CIG/CNC3* or 1x CCI/CCN2*)
	D or uncategorised	1x CCI2* + 1x CIC3* + 1x (CIG/CNC3* or 1x CCI/CCN2*)
CIC3*	A	1x CCI/CIC2* + 1x (CNC3* or 1x CIC2*) Horse Only
	B	1x CCI/CIC2* + 1x CIC/CNC2* + 1x (CNC3* or 1x CIC2*) Horse Only
	C	2x CCI/CIC2* + 1x (CNC3* or 1x CIC2*)
	D or uncategorised	2x CCI/CIC2* + 1x (CNC3* or 1x CIC2*)
CCI2*	A	1x CCI1* or 1x CIC2* + 1x CNC/CIC2* in prev 12 mths
	B	1x CCI1* or 1x CIC2* + 1x CNC/CIC2* in prev 12 mths
	C	1x CCI1* or 1x CIC2* + 1x CNC/CIC2* in prev 12 mths
	D or uncategorised	1x (CCI1* or CIC2*) + 1 x CIC2* + 1 x (CCI1* or CCN1* or CIC2* or CNC2*) ~Juniors & uncategorised riders must have a CCI1* as a combination.
CIC2*	A	1x CIC/CNC1* + 1x (CIC1* or CNC2*)
	B	1x CIC/CNC1* + 1x (CIC1* or CNC2*)
	C	1x CIC/CNC1* + 2x CIC/CNC1*
	D	1 x CIC/CNC* + 2 x CIC/CNC1*
	Uncategorised	1 x CIC/CNC* + 2 x CIC/CNC1* Juniors need Express Permission as a combination refer to rule 503.2
CCI1*	A	None
	B	None
	C	2x CNC1* or CIC1* (Completed) or 1x CCN105 MER + 1x CNC 1* MER Junior & YR MERs to be as a combination
	D	3 x CNC1* or CIC1* MERs Junior & YR MERs to be achieved as a combination
	Uncategorised	3 x CNC1* or CIC1* MERs to be achieved as a combination Junior & YR MERs to be achieved as a combination
CIC1*	A	None
	B	None
	C	3x EvA105 or PC grade 1 or Championship level(2 clear XC_J plus 1 with 0 or 20 XC_J) Note*
	D	3x EvA105 MERs, or 2 x EvA105 plus 1 x PC grade 1 or Championship level (2 clear XC_J plus 1 with 0 or 20 XC_J) Junior & YR MERs to be achieved as a combination
	Uncategorised	3x EvA105 MER as a combination or 2x EvA105 + 1x PC Grade1 or Championship level. (2 clear rXC_J plus 1 with 0 or 20 XC_J) Juniors need Express Permission as a combination, refer rule 503.2



## ***Reverse Qualification***

### **FEI Reverse Qualification – Horse**

A reverse qualification is the obligation for a Horse to show restored competence at a lower level (MER) after a number of unsuccessful attempts at a certain level. Reverse qualification only applies to the Horse.

A reverse qualification is triggered

- by two (2) consecutive Cross Country eliminations

Or

- a total of three (3) Cross Country eliminations within a twelve (12) months rolling period of time in International Competitions.

For this purpose the relevant reasons of elimination on Cross Country would be

- a) Three (3) refusals
- b) Fall of Horse or Athlete
- c) Dangerous riding

Reverse qualifications remain unless cleared by an MER.

In the case of a reverse qualification at certain level the Horse must obtain a Minimum Eligibility Requirement in an international Competition at a lower level before being allowed to compete again at the original level (e.g. Horse with 2 eliminations at 3 star level (any format) must obtain MER at 2 star level (any format) before going back to 3 star level (any format). If a reverse qualification is triggered by eliminations that occur at different levels (any format), then the Horse must obtain a MER at the level below (any format) the highest level of Competition at which an elimination occurred.

If a reverse qualification is triggered following eliminations at 1 star level (any format) then the NF must assess the Horse and provide a written report to the FEI Eventing Department before the Horse may again take part in any international Eventing Competition.

### **FEI Reverse Qualification - Athlete**

In addition to the above, should an Athlete be fully involved with two (2) reverse qualifications within a twelve (12) months rolling period of time his category (Art 519) will drop down one (1) level for one (1) year, as of the date of the second reverse qualification.

### **CNC/CCN Reverse Qualification**

- Reverse qualification applies to National levels EvA95, EvA105, CNC/CCN\*, CNC/CCN\*\* and CNC/CCN\*\*\*.
- Any MER that is required at the lower level before being allowed to compete again must be obtained as the combination that triggered the reverse qualification. Proof of MERs gained at EvA105 and below in order to cancel a reverse qualification are required to be sent to the state branch/representative by the rider.

- If reverse qualification is triggered by eliminations at CIC1\* or CCI1\* the combination will be required to obtain an MER at CNC/CCN EvA105. Written results and/or report to be forwarded to the FEI Eventing Department

### ***Where Can I find What Events I have Achieved MER's?***

#### **EA Results**

If you are not sure of your results you can look them up. All results from EvA 95 and above are on the website and states whether it is an MER or not. This is also helpful if you are buying a horse as you can look up its results. [Eventing Results](#)

#### **FEI Results/Categories**

**FEI Rider Results are also available here:** [FEI Rider Results](#)

**FEI Rider Categories are available here:** [Eventing Categories](#)

**FEI Horse Results are available here:** [FEI Horse Results](#)