

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Extraordinary	12/1/2025	9/25/2024	

Extraordinary Change Reason

Horse Welfare

Rule Change Intent

This rule change will streamline the Yellow Warning Card rule and clarify the process of what occurs when an individual receives a Yellow Warning Card, as well as the penalties that may result from the receipt of multiple Yellow Warning Cards over a twelve month period. This rule change further introduces a Recorded Warning, which will be issued by Competition Officials in instances of less egregious behavior that does not warrant a Yellow Warning Card or disciplinary action on the part of the Federation. The rule change establishes the potential penalties for those who receive three or more Recorded Warnings in a twelve-month period.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions

GR1037 ~~Yellow~~ Warning Card System - Stewards and Technical Delegates

1. A **Recorded Warning** may be issued by a **Judge, Steward, or Technical Delegate** at a competition to any person for minor offenses, including behavior that should not be repeated and that does not warrant a more severe penalty, including a **Yellow Warning Card** (e.g., instances of blood in a horse's mouth during a competition must result in at least a **Recorded Warning** and may warrant elimination).

2. A **Yellow Warning Card** may be issued by a **Judge, Steward, or Technical Delegate, or Competition Official** working in any of these capacities at the a competition to any **person** competitor, spectator, or participant for improper conduct, or for noncompliance with the **Federation Rules**, **when the misconduct is not a minor offense but not severe enough to warrant formal disciplinary action through the Federation Regulation Department**. rules, provided the issuer considers the conduct not severe enough to cause the issuer to submit the matter to the Federation for a Disciplinary Action Complaint.

3. To issue a **Recorded Warning or Yellow Warning Card**, a **Judge, Steward, or Technical Delegate, or Competition Official** must:

- a. complete and sign the **Recorded Warning form or Yellow Warning Card**;
3. **b. timely provide a** A copy of the signed **Recorded Warning form or Yellow Warning Card** must be provided to the **affected person, alleged offender** at the competition either in person or by any other suitable means; **and**
- c. **send a** A copy of the **Recorded Warning form or Yellow Warning Card** must then be sent to the Federation with the Steward's/Technical Delegate's Report Form and noted therein.

[Renumber accordingly]

4. Upon receipt of the **Recorded Warning form or Yellow Warning Card**, the Federation will send an acknowledgment of its receipt of the **same Yellow Warning Card** to the **affected person alleged offender** advising of the provisions of this Rule.

5. The issuance of a **Recorded Warning or Yellow Warning Card** is **final and not appealable**. meant to replace the filing of a Disciplinary Action Complaint for a willful and serious violation of Federation rules, and in no case may a **Yellow Warning Card** be issued for abuse of a horse in any form. It is for lesser offenses only.

6. **The Federation will levy a fine or seek a suspension of no less than two months against any person who within a twelve-month period receives three or more Recorded Warnings or two or more Yellow Warning Cards.**

6. Immediately following receipt by the Federation of a third **Yellow Warning Card** indicating that a competitor, spectator, or participant has been issued three **Yellow Warning Cards** within a 16 month period the CEO or their designee shall either levy a fine ranging from \$500 to \$1000 or issue a formal Disciplinary Action Complaint pursuant to the Federation Bylaws. If the alleged offender is found in violation of any or all of said violations, they may be subject to the penalties set forth in Chapter 7 of the Rules.

7. **The issuance of a Recorded Warning or Yellow Warning Card does not preclude the Federation from seeking further penalties set forth in Chapter 7 of the Rules.**

8. **All Recorded Warnings and Yellow Warning Cards issued within the preceding twelve months**

will be published to the membership.