NCEL Rule Changes

- Increase the roster size from 9 to 12, but not the number of riders who may participate at any show (that remains 9). Riders still have to be designated to a specific division within the expanded roster submitted by each team prior to the start of the season, with the limit of 5 riders for any division. Note that this means that if a team has a maximum of 12, only 9 of those riders may participate at the finale show.
- Any rider participating at a regular season show is eligible for selection for the finale class. A coach may choose to exclude a point rider from the draw if such rider is entered in only flat classes for that show. The coach must communicate that exclusion to the host team prior to the draw with their entries for the show. NCEL coaches are required to submit six riders for the draw at each regular season show unless the team does not have six riders who compete in an over fences class at such show.
- In order to accommodate our horses' needs, hosts of regular season shows may now opt for a height range in the over fences for novice, limit, and open. The following changes were made:
    - Divisions are designated as Novice, Limit, and Open. For the over fences portion of each division the host team may opt to set their fences at a lower height (as outlined below). However, all riders must be prepared to jump at the maximum height for their division at any regular season show.
        - Novice equitation over fences - 21" - 2'0"
        - Limit equitation over fences - 2'0" - 2'3"
        - Open equitation over fences - 2'3" - 2'6"
- Lower the finale class over fences height to no higher than 2' (It is currently 2'3"). This is to reflect that we do have a number of novice riders that are selected for the finale class at each show, and in practice the fences are generally 2'.
- Modified the requirement that for the finale class fences must be jumped in the same direction as previously jumped. This has caused a lot of confusion for judges in designing the finale class course, as many times the courses are different for different divisions. The rules now state: When possible jumps should be jumped in the same direction as previously jumped
- An addition to requirements of participating schools
    - Participating schools must ensure that their riders do not have logos, colors, etc. that would associate them with a particular team while in the show ring being judged.
- An addition to host school responsibilities
    - Host schools must ensure *when possible* that riders remain anonymous to the judge, including not announcing a rider's name or team while being judged, or sharing lists of riders' names, teams, and numbers.
- Set a derby style high fence option for the over fences portion of the Finale show. Last season we heard concerns from a couple of barns concerning the 2'6" height and horses. In order to accommodate this we lowered the maximum height to 2'3" (with other divisions going at 2' and 21"). We would like to accommodate needs while still providing a higher option for our teams that have enough horses to do the 2'6". Hence the following change would modify the NCEL 'Finale Meet' section of the rules.
    - Novice, Limit, and Open over fences shall run as follows:
        - Novice equitation over 4 fences shall consist of 4 jumps including a trot fence and a halt. Jumps shall be set at a height of 21" with a high jump option of 2'0" set 'derby style' at a singular canter fence.
        - Novice equitation over 6 fences shall consist of 6 jumps to be cantered. Jumps shall be set at a height of 21" with a high jump option of 2'0" set 'derby style' at no more than two fences.
        - Limit equitation over 4 fences shall consist of 4 jumps including a trot fence and a halt. Jumps shall be set at a height of 2'0" (with the exception of the trot fence) with a high jump option of 2'3" set 'derby style' at a singular canter fence.
        - Limit equitation over 6 fences shall consist of 6 jumps to be cantered. Jumps shall be set at a height of 2'0" with a high jump option of 2'3" set 'derby style' at no more than two fences.

- Open equitation over 4 fences shall consist of 4 jumps including a trot fence and a halt. Jumps shall be set at a height of 2'3" (with the exception of the trot fence) with a high jump option of 2'6" set 'derby style' at a singular canter fence.
- Open equitation over 6 fences shall consist of 6 jumps to be cantered. Jumps shall be set at a height of 2'3" with a high jump option of 2'6" set 'derby style' at no more than two fences.

NCSSEL Rule Changes

- Increase the roster size from 9 to 11, but not the number of riders (6 point riders and 3 alternates) who may participate at any regular season show or finale show. This requires removing any designation of a rider being a point rider or alternate within the rosters submitted by teams prior to the start of the season, and instead creates a pool of riders that can be designated as point or alternate rider at any given show. This expansion of the roster pool does not change how points would be calculated. An alternate rider may be bumped up to ride in point rider classes if a point rider is absent at a show. For the first show where an alternate rides as a point rider such points may still count towards their alternate total. Any subsequent shows where such alternate rides as a point rider, those points shall only count in the point rider category and not towards their alternate total. A rider cannot ride in an alternate class and have those points count towards point rider points. Note that this means that if a team has a maximum of 11, only 9 of those riders may participate at the finale show.
- Two riders from each team shall be selected for the finale class during the coaches' draw prior to the start of the show. A coach may choose to exclude a point rider from the coaches' draw if such rider is entered in only flat classes for that show. The coach must communicate that exclusion to the host team prior to the draw with their entries for the show.
- Modified the requirement that for the finale class fences must be jumped in the same direction as previously jumped. This has caused a lot of confusion for judges in designing the finale class course, as many times the courses are different for different divisions. The rules now state: When possible jumps should be jumped in the same direction as previously jumped
- An addition to requirements of participating schools
    - Participating schools must ensure that their riders do not have logos, colors, etc. that would associate them with a particular team while in the show ring being judged.
- An addition to host school responsibilities
    - Host schools must ensure *when possible* that riders remain anonymous to the judge, including not announcing a rider's name or team while being judged, or sharing lists of riders' names, teams, and numbers.

JEL Rule Changes

- An addition to requirements of participating schools
    - Participating schools must ensure that their riders do not have logos, colors, etc. that would associate them with a particular team while in the show ring being judged.
- An addition to host school responsibilities
    - Host schools must ensure *when possible* that riders remain anonymous to the judge, including not announcing a rider's name or team while being judged, or sharing lists of riders' names, teams, and numbers.