

Trimming of the inner ear and whisker hair of horses/ponies

Please be aware of an addition to ESNZ rules. The trimming of whiskers and inner ear hair will now be considered as abuse of a horse/pony and will be enforced from 2020 within the ESNZ disciplines.

Chapter seven: protection of competitors and horses.

Article 132: Abuse of Horses

1. No person may abuse a horse during an event or any other time. 'Abuse' means an action or omission which causes or is likely to cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a horse, including without limitation any of the following (to be read in conjunction with the relevant discipline rules)
 - 1.1 To whip or beat a horse excessively
 - 1.2 To subject a horse to any kind of electric shock device
 - 1.3 To use spurs excessively or persistently
 - 1.4 To jab the horse in the mouth with the bit or any other device
 - 1.5 To compete using an exhausted, lame or injured horse
 - 1.6 To "rap" a horse
 - 1.7 To abnormally sensitise or desensitise any part of a horse
 - 1.8 To leave a horse with out adequate food, drink or exercise
 - 1.9 To use any device or equipment which causes excessive pain to the horse upon knocking down an obstacle
 - 1.10 Trimming a horses whiskers or inner ear hair
2. Any person witnessing any form of abuse must report it in the form of a Protest if the abuse occurs during an event or as a Complaint if the abuse does not occur during an event