

## APPENDIX V: 2004 Guidelines for Coaching at USPC Show Jumping Competitions

The role of a coach is to assist the rider learning:

1. warm-up area techniques,
2. the assessment of the course,
3. how to deal with mistakes made on course,
4. the rules of competition before competition begins.

The presence of a coach at a Show Jumping rally is to promote safety, good sportsmanship and good horsemastership in the warm-up area and the competition ring.

A Pony Club coach is expected to help any Pony Club competitor who asks for help or who is present without a coach.

The coach is not present to give a riding lesson in the warm up area.

All teams/individuals must have a coach; teams/individuals may share a coach.

The coach's name must be included on the entry form.

The coach must be familiar with and comply with the current USPC Rules for Show Jumping Competitions and should assist riders in learning these rules before the competition begins. The coach must read, sign and return to the organizer a copy of this form to indicate that he/she has read, understands and will abide by the USPC Show Jumping Rules and the coach's guidelines.

The coach must wear the identification provided by the organizer during the competition times. Those times are defined to be at least from the opening to the closing of stables each day.

Communication between coaches and competitors during the competition is limited to:

1. The Official Briefing and any subsequent briefings, as required by the Organizer;
2. Show Jumping course walks;
3. Show Jumping warm ups;
4. A brief meeting following the Show Jumping round in the Schooling Area if the rider so desires.

*Coaches must:*

1. Attend the Official Briefing for Coaches;
2. Attend the Official Course Walk if held.

Every rider must have a coach present while jumping.

1. All coaches must be identified so they are easily recognized as a coach.
2. While each rider must be under a coach's direct supervision, it is not required to be the coach who came with that team.
3. A rider in the schooling area whose coach is not present may/should approach another coach and ask for help.

Coaching for Region/Club/Team:

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*A coach may not be:*

1. A team chaperone, except with the permission of the Organizer;
2. The Organizer, any member of the Organizing Committee or any other official of the competition;
3. A Regional Supervisor at a regional competition.

*The duties of a coach shall be limited to the jumping phases of competitions and may include:*

1. Observing, but not participation in, any pre-competitive soundness check and any daily soundness checks.
2. Accompanying competitors during course inspection or at any other subsequent times that the courses are open for walking, during which they may give advice and coach.
3. Assisting competitors in the designated Schooling Area.
4. No competitor is to jump in the warm-up area without a coach present and watching the ride. Jumping a fence without the attention of a coach shall result in ELIMINATION.
5. Briefly meet with the rider after the round for feedback on the round, if the rider desires. This meeting will be held in or very near by the gate to, the Schooling Area; and under no circumstances will interfere with the care of the horse, under penalty of elimination of the rider.
6. If necessary, a coach may lead a competitor's horse into the arena.

The coach must not interfere with the immediate care of the horse under penalty of elimination of the competitor from that round, in accordance with the rules for unauthorized assistance.

*A coach may request an adjustment of tack from the Paddock Master or Steward.*

1. If permission is granted, after the adjustment is made, the competitor must return to the Paddock Master or Horse Management Judge for a safety check of the adjustment.
2. Permission for changes must be requested before the change is made.

At all times coaches must be aware of the unauthorized assistance rule (see Article 54.8). They must not enter the stable area except at authorized visiting times.

The paddock master/judge/ground jury under the rules governing unauthorized assistance will penalize violations of these coaching guidelines.

All coaches must sign that they have read this sheet:

*I \_\_\_\_\_ have read the USPC Handbook and Rules for Show Jumping and the above guidelines for coaching.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cell Phone Number