



## Cross Country Style Award Information

Presented by BFL Canada

The Cross Country Style Award program was originally founded by the USEA Professional Horseman's Council and was initiated in Canada by the Ontario and British Columbia Horse Trials Associations in 2009. Thanks to the sponsorship of BFL CANADA the Canadian Eventing Cross Country Style Award Program was officially launched across Canada in 2011. The first judging took place at the CCI Bromont Three Day Event, The Todd Sandler Challenge June 9-12, 2011.

The purpose of the award is to recognize competitors who demonstrate exemplary cross country technique and also to educate riders and coaches as to what constitutes safe riding cross country.

This program is one of many pieces of the safety puzzle and could be of particular benefit to those entering the sport at the lower level or as a heads up to those more experienced competitors riding poorly. Its function is to provide feedback for riders and trainers and to recognize and reward cross riding technique.

It is hoped that the Safety Representative or Safety Committee of each Provincial Horse Trials Association (PHTA) would coordinate the program in their province.

All Eventing Competition Organisers are encouraged to offer the program but it is not mandatory. It is also not mandatory that every division of an eventing competition is judged nor that every cross country round is judged. The winning scores may be posted on the Master Score Board; however the outcome of the judging will not affect the official competition score. Scores may also be posted as percentages. Riders will receive their score sheets with written comments, which will provide valuable feedback for them and their coaches. Awards should be presented to the competitor achieving the highest score in each division judged or the highest score of the day.

Recipients will receive the Canadian Eventing Cross Country Style Award – a beautiful sand cast aluminum plaque.

Judges qualified to evaluate riders to receive awards are Equine Canada NCCP Eventing Level 3 and above certified coaches, Equine Canada eventing senior licensed officials, Canadian Eventing High Performance Selectors and CET Short Listed Team members.

The judging criteria is based on technical merit and safe cross country riding. It includes the following elements

1. Gallop - Appropriate speed for level/terrain/conditions – appropriate rider position
2. Preparation Zone: Demonstrate correct change in speed, balance control and rider position for obstacle Correct line of approach
3. Jumping position of Rider – Balance security of lower leg – appropriate use of upper body, fitness
4. Jumping Phase of Horse – Athletic Ability, technique and fitness
5. General Impression – safety, confidence competence and partnership

Program information and Judging forms will be available for download on the web site- [www.equinecanada.ca/eventing](http://www.equinecanada.ca/eventing). Competition Organisers who wish to hold the program at their competition may order the appropriate number of Awards from the EC office – Eventing Department prior to their competition.