

DISTANCES OR NOT DISTANCES

- **Judges Refresher Seminar**
- **PRAGUE January 2020**

OBVIOUS

- The so-called Obvious was a repeatedly scrutinized from every angle and was frequently found to be not obvious but false.
- *“ Obvious” is the most dangerous word in mathematics. (Eric Temple Bell).*
- *If this happens in mathematics... what won't happen then in Jumping Equestrian Sport?*

What's the difference?



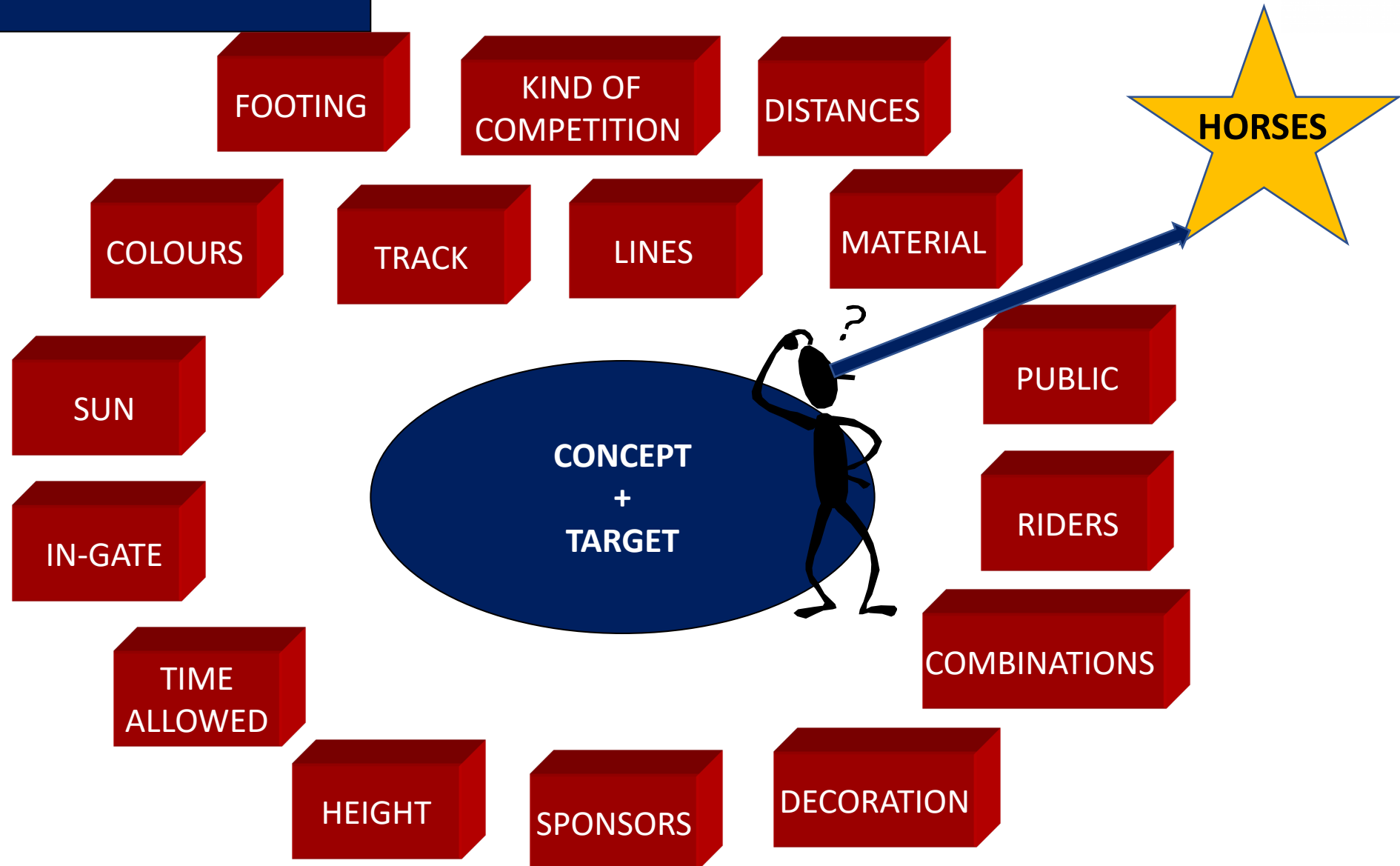
Setting up 12 fences in the arena

VS

Building a course



What is a course?



Good courses are tests of:

- The TRAINING LEVEL of both, the horse and the rider.
- The COMMUNICATION and CO-OPERATION between the horse and the rider.
- The horse's degree of BOLDNESS, CAREFULNESS and CONCENTRATION.
- The JUDGEMENT and CONCENTRATION of the rider.
- The horse's BALANCE and the adjustability of the horse's STRIDE.
- Lastly, SCOPE.

Difficulty Factors

Tangible

- Height of the jumps
- Width of the jumps
- Distance between jumps??
- Speed - Time allowed

- All these “Difficulty Factors”, affect distances.
- Distances are only numbers and these numbers must be interpreted.

Perceptible

- Track
- Type of combinations
- Lines
- Construction of the jumps
- Approaches
- Distractions

Subtle

- Fence material
- Colours and Background
- Decoration
- Length and number of efforts
- Balance and Flow of the course

REMEMBER...

Distances are influenced by:



- **Footing Conditions**

- Sand or Grass
- Soft or hard
- Slippery or Adherent

- **Fences**

- Type of fences (o,v,tb...)
- Size of the fences
- Shapes
- Contrast Color
- Construction
- Complementary Elements

- **Track**

- Flowing Track
- Length of the course
- Course Situation (early stage....)
- Speed of the Competition

- **Other Arena conditions**

- Sun
- Shadows
- Natural elements (tree, lakes...)
- Decoratives Elements

- **Slope and Direction**

- Uphill/Downhill
- Toward in-Gate
- Away from in-Gate

- **Approach & Jumping Arc**

- **Generally distances depend on**
 - **What has happened previously during the course up until that moment**

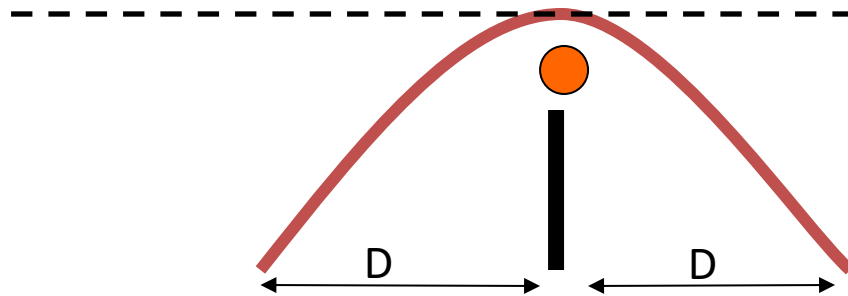
and

 - **The tests that are yet to come before the competition ends**

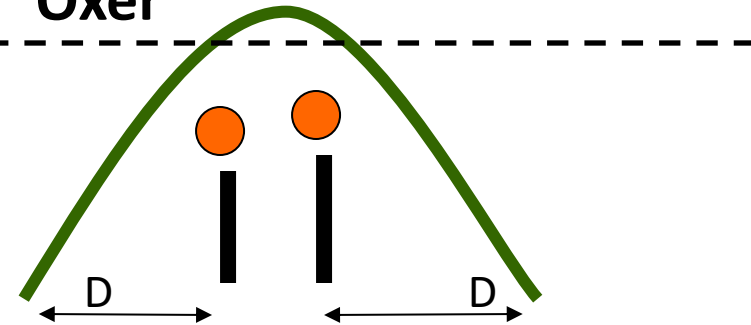
Influencing Take Off and Landing Zones

An oxer needs a higher jump than a vertical of the same height

Vertical

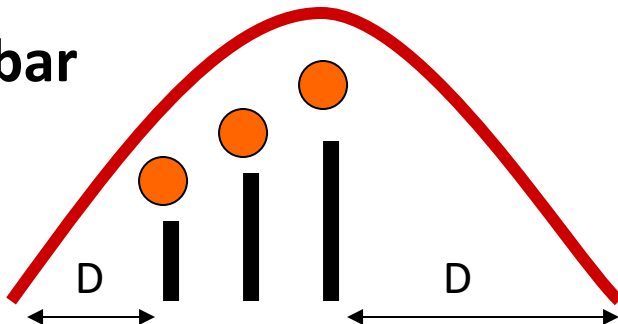


Oxer

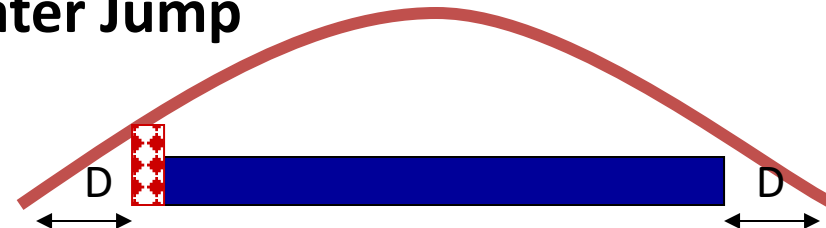


- The take off for a vertical is longer and can be less exact than for an oxer, because there is no 'back pole' to clear. There are more degrees of freedom for the take off - approach of a vertical.
- The landing behind the oxer can be expected shorter while the highest point of the jump is somewhere halfway the oxer.
- The take off for a triple bar is shorter than both vertical and oxer and similar to the one of the water jump.
- Landing for a triple bar is longer than vertical and oxer whilst that of the water jump is the shortest of all.

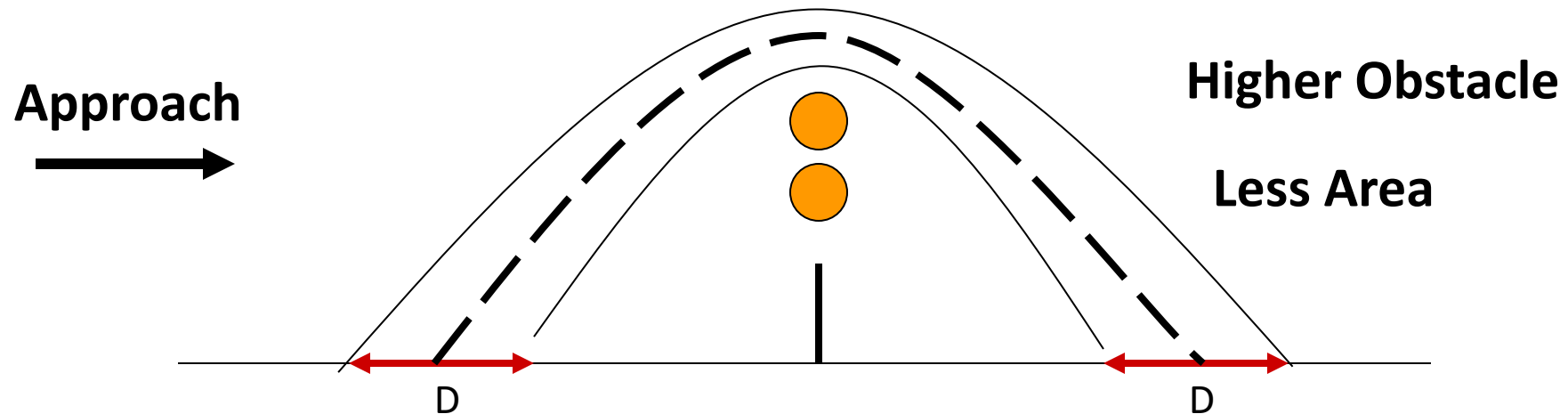
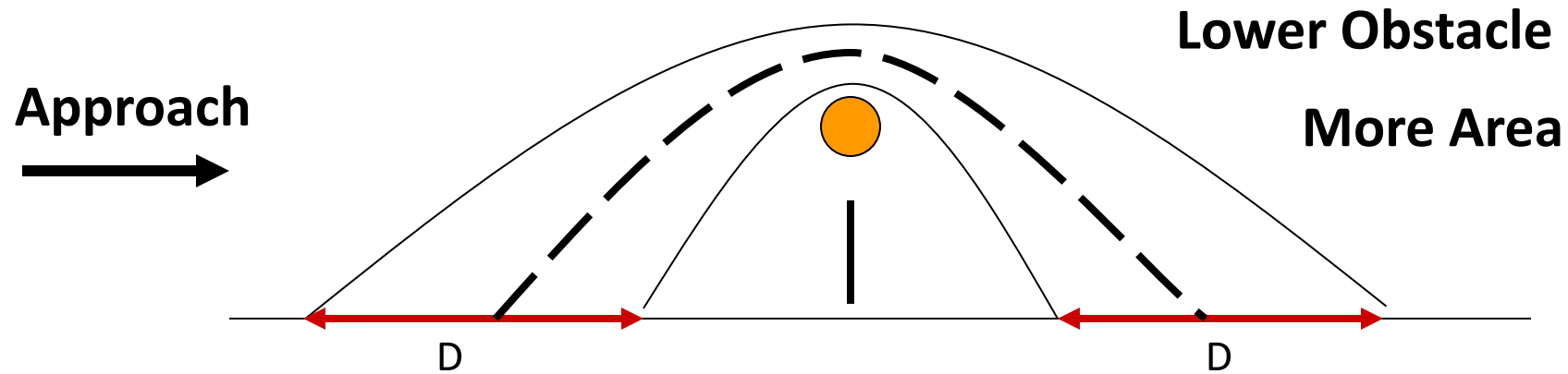
Triple bar



Water Jump



Degrees of freedom for the take off



Distances

Distances in combinations



Situation A

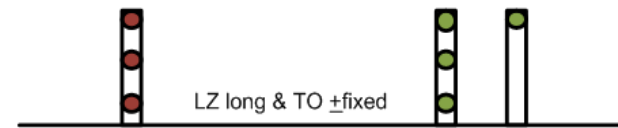
Distances in combinations



Situation A: Variety +



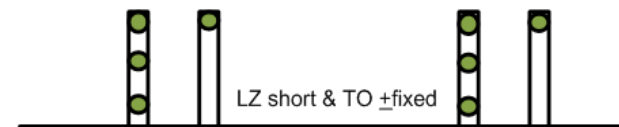
Situation B



Situation B: Variety +/-



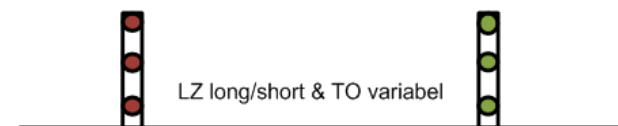
Situation C



Situation C: Variety --



Situation D



Situation D: Variety ++

Distances

- Distances are just a guide and they are directly affected by all we have seen before.
- The exact distance **DOES NOT** exist.
- Setting up the same distance under different conditions will have as a result the same number meaning different things.
- I usually avoid giving numbers because numbers must be interpreted.
- **With experience, the Course Designer makes use of different distances depending on the circumstances.**
- Out of all these characteristics, the main concept to take into account when calculating distances is the average stride length.

Distances

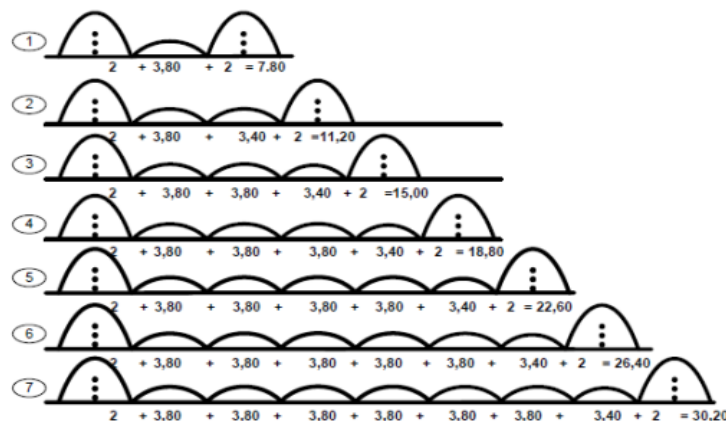
Base distance = combination on 2 strides = landing + landing stride (long) + take off stride (short) + take off

Horizontal / flat	DISTANCES						Mathematical progression
Stride length meters		3,60	3,80	4,0	4,20	4,4	3,75
Base distance	2	11,00	11,20	11,4			adding 3,75
Strides	3	14,60	15,00	15,40	15,6	15,8	15,00
	4	18,20	18,80	19,40	19,8	20,2	18,75
	5	21,80	22,60	23,40	24,0	24,6	22,50
	6	25,40	26,40	27,40	28,2	29,0	26,25
	7	29,00	30,20	31,40	32,4	33,4	30,00
	8	32,60	34,00	35,40	36,6	37,8	33,75
					JO	JO	

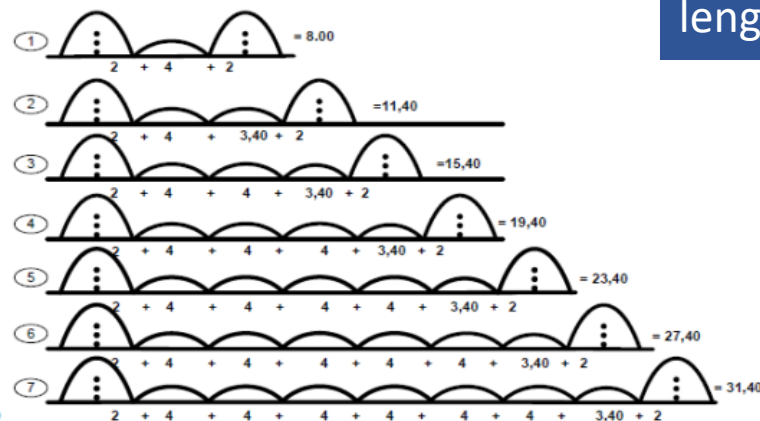
This Chart represents suggested distances under normal conditions. Judgement must be exercised regarding variations in footing, weather, terrain, stride length of horse etc...

Related distances assuming average stride length

Stride Length 3.80m



Stride Length 4.00 m



** This is only a theoretical exercise equal stride length would be unrealistic

Distances example

- One thing is what see on paper

But the other is...

- What the numbers mean...



CSIO BARCELONA 2015

Furusiyya FEI NC™ Jumping Final

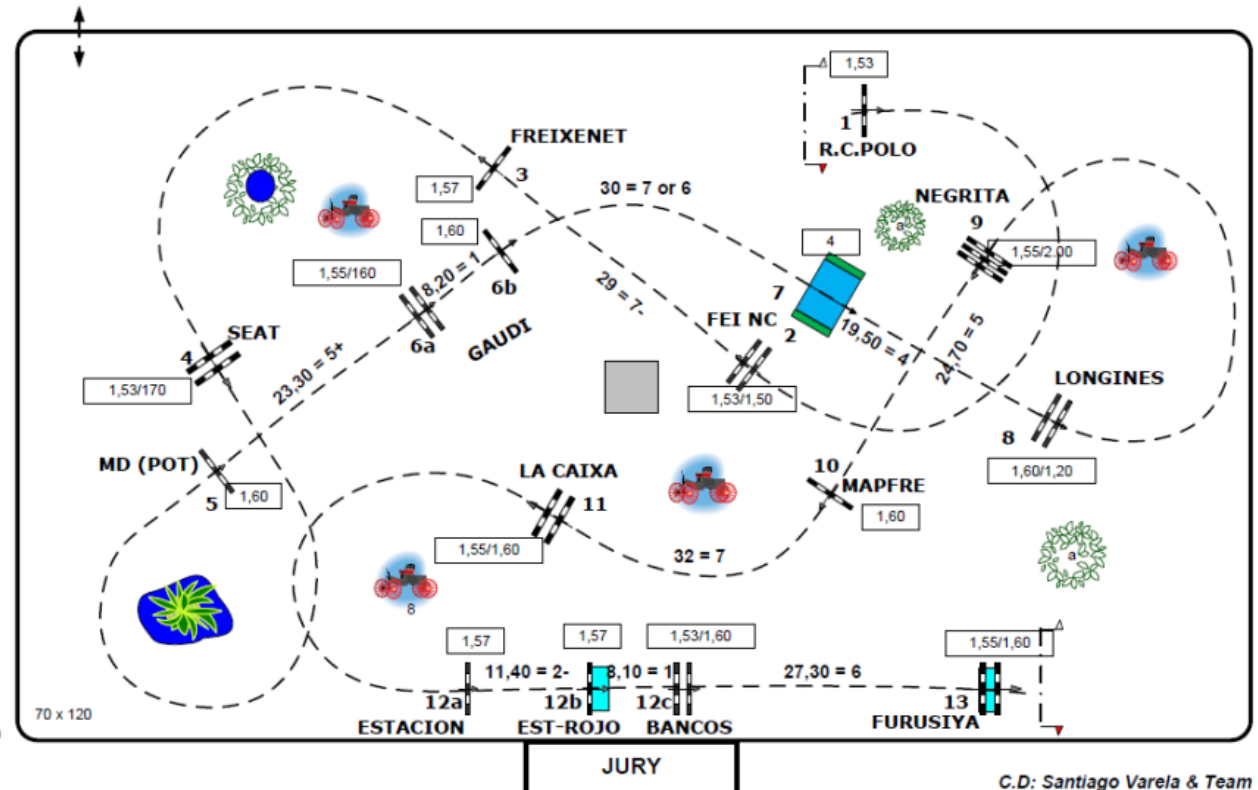


Thursday 24/09/2015

Table: A
National RG:
FEI RG / Art. 273.3.3.1/4.3
Height: 1,60 m

Speed: 400 m/min
Length: 0 m
Time allowed: 0 sec
Time limit: 0 sec

Obstacles: 13 : Length: 0 m
Efforts: 16 : Time allowed: 0 sec
Penalty sec: : Time limit: 0 sec
Closed combination:



“ Obvious” is the most dangerous word in Jumping Equestrian Sport...
(Unknow course designer)

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION