

Safety update



ADAM FANTHORPE

BE's National Safety Officer *Jonathan Clissold* summarises cross country courses and falls on them for 2013/2014

THE PROCESS

BE continues to collect data on all of the fences on all of the courses at BE and FEI Events in the UK and the falls that occur at them throughout the year. The BE Technical Adviser (TA) measures all the fences and allocates them a profile from a list. This is then entered into the BE database through the TA's laptop.

The fence judges fill in a Fall Report Form for each fall, which is then also entered into the laptop by the TA and sent electronically to the BE database.

The data that is collected is continually analysed allowing BE to keep an up to date audit of the sport and quickly react to any fences or trends that appear

that could affect the safety of the sport.

The reporting year for the cross country data is 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014 and at the end of this reporting period the database is sent to the Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) for an independent audit and annual report.



The data is analysed allowing BE to keep an up to date audit



DID YOU KNOW...

THERE WERE 1,906 CROSS COUNTRY FALLS IN THE 2013/14 PERIOD OUT OF 66,407 STARTERS.

1,817 falls were associated with a fence.



Here is the data reported for the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014.

- 566 BE and FEI courses in the UK
- 14,902 cross country fence elements
- 66,407 cross country starters
- 1.6 million fences jumped
- 1,906 cross country falls
- 1,817 falls associated with a fence

COURSES AND STARTERS

BE and FEI classes	No. of courses	No. of cross country starters
One star	25	1,596
Two star	17	1,301
Three star	13	945
Four star	2	140
Advanced	14	743
Intermediate	56	5,850
Novice	126	14,557
BE100	146	21,498
BE90	116	16,296
BE80	51	3,481
Total	566	66,407

CROSS COUNTRY STARTERS BY CLASS

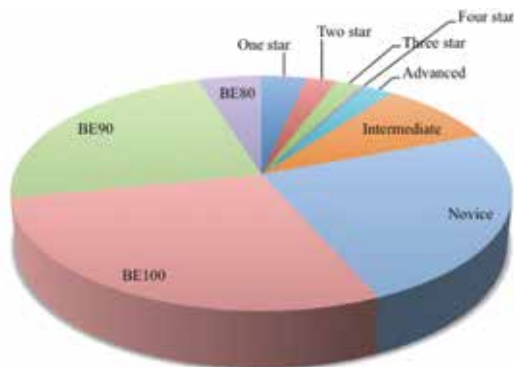


Table 1: Courses and starters

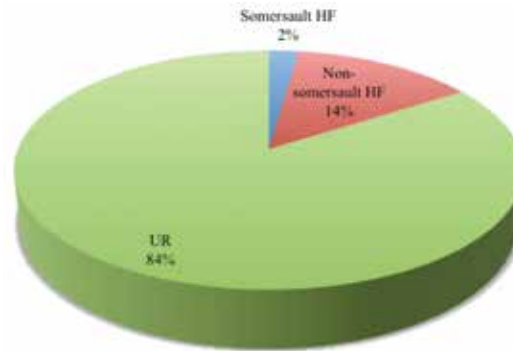
FALLS

1,906 falls in total on cross country courses at Events
 1,817 occurred at a fence
 89 were on the flat
 This table shows the 1,817 falls at a fence by fall type.

Somersault horse falls	Non-somersault horse falls	Unseated rider	Total
45	245	1,527	1,817

Table 2: Categories of falls

FALLS AT FENCES BY FALL TYPE



% FALLERS TO CROSS COUNTRY STARTERS

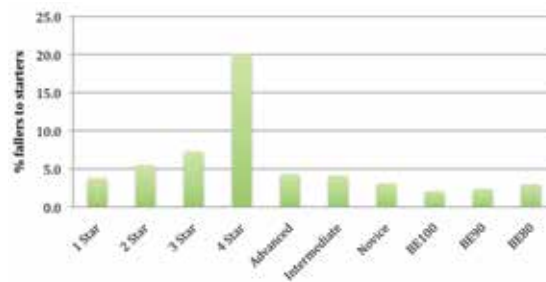


Table 3: % cross country fallers to starters by class level

INJURIES

Falls	Fatal injury	Serious injury	Slight injury	No injury	Severity not known	Total
Number of falls involving the horse somersaulting	1 2.2%	16 35.6%	16 35.6%	12 26.7%	0 0.0%	45 100%
Number of falls without the horse somersaulting	0 0.0%	10 4.1%	46 18.8%	189 77.1%	0 0%	245 100%
Number of unseated riders	0 0.0%	18 1.2%	120 7.9%	1,389 91.0%	0 0.0%	1,527 100%

Table 4: Severity of injury from cross country falls

1.6 million fences were jumped in the 2013/14 period



Fall Type		2002 /03	2003 /04	2004 /05	2005 /06	2006 /07	2007 /08	2008 /09	2009 /10	2010 /11	2011 /12	2012 /13	2013 /14	Combined Results
Somersault horse falls	Number of seriously/fatally injured riders	33	14	20	17	18	12	16	8	9	7	8	17	179
	Total number of falls	90	60	60	67	55	46	43	49	40	40	41	45	636
	Percentage of riders seriously/fatally injured	37%	23%	33%	25%	33%	26%	37%	16%	23%	18%	20%	38%	28%
Non-somersault horse falls	Number of seriously/fatally injured riders	28	22	13	9	9	9	15	20	16	14	15	10	180
	Total number of falls	235	210	196	178	230	242	225	251	245	224	238	245	2,719
	Percentage of riders seriously/fatally injured	12%	10%	7%	5%	4%	4%	7%	8%	7%	6%	6%	4%	7%
Unseated rider falls	Number of seriously/fatally injured riders	43	33	30	30	22	22	16	21	25	18	12	18	290
	Total number of falls	1,257	1,182	1,265	1,315	1,486	1,544	1,390	1,366	1,504	1,358	1,337	1,527	16,531
	Percentage of riders seriously/fatally injured	3%	3%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%

Table 5: Results for the last 12 seasons

RISK

Using the combined result from table five, so using all the data collected, this gives us the following risk factors for the different types of fall:

Somersault horse fall – 28 per cent risk of a serious/fatal outcome

Non-somersault horse fall – seven per cent risk of a serious/fatal outcome

Unseated rider fall – two per cent risk of a serious/fatal outcome

Year	Number of competitors	Serious injury	% Risk of serious injury
July 13 – June 14	66,407	44	0.07%
July 12 – June 13	64,855	35	0.05%
July 11 – June 12	61,678	39	0.06%
July 10 – June 11	69,856	50	0.07%
July 09 – June 10	64,816	49	0.08%
July 08 – June 09	65,041	53	0.08%
July 07 – June 08	64,462	48	0.07%
July 06 – June 07	60,357	52	0.09%
July 05 – June 06	56,041	63	0.11%
July 04 – June 05	47,934	66	0.14%
July 03 – June 04	41,221	69	0.17%
July 02 – June 03	44,962	108	0.24%

Table 6: Percentage risk of serious injury by year



CONCLUSIONS

Looking at the results for this year it can be seen that the number of seriously injured riders has increased from the previous year, particularly following a somersault horse fall. The numbers are small so any increase means that the percentage is high. This is an area that BE are looking at to see what might be the cause. 🐾