



International Mounted Games Association Rules Committee

Rule Change Request Document

Name:	Chris Wheeler
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Country:	
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Summary of Change Requested:

To provide arena dimensions for potential host organisers to use in their bids. Ultimately in order to avoid the debates of whether an arena is a suitable size for Mounted Games

- A) To decide on the minimum length of a full size arena
- B) To decide on the length of a short arena
- C) To decide on the minimum width of an arena for Pairs/Individuals
- D) To decide on how to fit 7 lanes into a 70m wide arena for Pairs

Current Rule Book Wording:

Refer to arena diagram on page 18 of the 2023 Rule Book

Suggested New Rule Book Wording:

For discussion/adjustment

ARENA LENGTH :

- 126.5m – 115m
- Any arena 114.9 -100m is to be considered a Short Arena and consequently Short Arena games are to be played.
- Any arena below 100m is not suitable for Mounted Games

ARENA WIDTH

For teams:-

8 lanes minimum width 85.5m which is 9m between lanes and including 13.5m
7 lanes minimum width 76.5m which is 9m between lanes and including 13.5m
6 lanes minimum width 67.5m which is 9m between lanes and including 13.5m

For Pairs and Individuals

8 lanes minimum width 77.5m which is 8m between lanes and including 13.5m
7 lanes minimum width 69.5m which is 8m between lanes and including 13.5m
6 lanes minimum width 61.5m which is 8m between lanes and including 13.5m

Reason for Change Request:

At the April 2023 online meeting, the Chief Referee said that in his experience an arena 70m wide was suitable for 7 lanes of Pairs/Individuals.

As a result of this statement, when it came to voting for 2025 venues, Corné in France was voted by the International Representatives as the venue for WPC 2025. Corné will be enlarging their arena to 115m x 70m and their bid was to have 7 lanes.

So now we have the situation where a bid has been voted for at a venue that will have this size of arena but is, according to our Chief Referee, suitable for 7 lanes of Pairs.

We cannot “undo“ the vote and Corné will be spending thousands of Euros in enlarging their arena. Their arena cannot be wider than 70m due to buildings etc.

So a solution is now needed to fit 7 lanes into a 70m wide arena for Pairs.

The above figures are a starting point for arena dimensions and will possibly need more adjustment.

If the Rules Committee can come up with an arena diagram for Pairs and Individuals it may open up other venues / countries being able to host IMGA competitions.

In addition, the Rules Committee may come up with further solutions – eg not having certain races that involve wide turning circles (eg 3 mug).

Also, the possibility of using short arena games if appropriate.

And finally, the possibility of riders when they finish, to re-cross the starting line to give riders more space when they finish.

And other possibilities to finish a solution to this situation.

For Internal Use Only:

Reference:	2023 - 01
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Submission Date:	03/07/2023
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Decision Date:	08/11/2023
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Votes	
Jens Martin	In Favour
Margaret Welsby	In Favour
Warwick Slade	In Favour
Robin Donnay	In Favour
Mark Crowe	In Favour
Alun Whitney	In Favour
Total In Favour:	6
Total Not In Favour:	0

Result:	Change Accepted
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Actual Adopted New Rule Book Wording:

Amend CR1.4. to read as follows:

The arena must be marked out in accordance with the diagram shown. This is the standard arena size and layout. Individuals may be run in an arena of shorter length (shown to the right of the diagram). Bending poles have a 15cm diameter mark, and other equipment a 40cm mark. For arenas of shorter length, short arena games are permitted (see separate appendix).

Variations may be necessary due to the size of the arena available, venue specific circumstances or the number of teams competing to enhance safety. Any variations to this or to the games equipment must be announced by the referee at the briefing.

ARENA LENGTH :

Grass Arenas

- 126m minimum
- Any grass arena 108m -126m is to be considered a "Short Arena" and consequently Short Arena games are to be played.

All-Weather Surface

- 110m minimum
- Any all-weather arena 99m -110m is to be considered a "Short Arena" and consequently Short Arena games are to be played.

For Individual competitions a grass or all weather arena at least 99m in length is suitable.

Compensation for slight short-falls in length may be made by using a suitable run-off area and such arenas need to be assessed for suitability.

ARENA WIDTH :

- 13.5m plus 9m per lane and a maximum of 8 lanes (85.5m)
- For individuals and pairs the width of the lane may be reduced to 8m where the width of the arena does not allow 9m.

Bending poles have a 15cm diameter mark, other equipment a 40cm mark. Variations may be necessary due to the size of the arena available or the number of teams

competing. Any variations to this or to the games equipment must be announced by the referee at the briefing.

Reason for Decision:

Lots of discussion on this point to try and come up with a set of arena dimensions that could be set in stone. With so many factors involved however, this may never be entirely possible and some “wiggle room” remains. All efforts should however be made to stick to these dimensions.

Implementation Date:	January 1 st 2024
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