Equestrian Australia Limited

NATIONAL DRESSAGE RULES

Event Organizer's Sections and Annexes

This shortened version of the Australian Dressage Rules contains the rules most pertinent to organizers. Note that the rules in their entirety as per the full rulebook apply at all times.

Effective
01 January 2019

CLEAN VERSION

The Equestrian Australia National Dressage Rules may also be found on the Equestrian Australia website:
www.equestrian.org.au

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To be read in conjunction with the EA General Regulations and other EA policies and By-Law available on the EA website www.equestrian.org.au - These rules are effective from 1 Jan 2019. From this date on, all other texts covering the same matter are superseded

Preamble

The following rules have been adopted by Equestrian Australia (EA) and must be followed by all affiliated organisations conducting dressage events on behalf of EA or under EA rules. They follow as closely as possible the rules laid down by the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI). Some FEI rules have been modified to suit Australian conditions. If issues arise which are not covered in the EA rules then the FEI rules apply. In the event of a conflict between EA rules and FEI rules, the FEI rules will prevail. Any modified EA rules do not apply in a FEI-sanction event.

These rules cannot provide for every eventuality. In any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the appropriate official(s) to make a decision in a sporting spirit and adhere as closely as possible to the intention of these rules

Notwithstanding anything stipulated in these rules, the Equestrian Australian Dressage Committee (EADC) has full discretion and complete authority to omit, amend and interpret these rules in their absolute discretion and to give or to withhold any explanation of its decision.

These rules refer to EA dressage, FEI dressage at EA events, and Eventing dressage. For the rules relating to FEI-sanctioned dressage events refer to the FEI rules at www.fei.org.

Glossary and definitions

Below is a list of commonly used abbreviations and acronyms used throughout this rulebook.

Glossary of abbreviations and acronyms

AOR	Amateur Owner Rider
CDI	Concours de Dressage International
CDI-W, Y, J or P	Concours de Dressage International including World Cup, Young Riders, Juniors, Ponies
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
EA	Equestrian Australia Ltd
EADC	Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee
EADJC	Equestrian Australia Dressage Judges Committee
EAPDPEC	Equestrian Australia Dressage Para Equestrian Committee
EOC	Error of Course
FEI	Federation Equestre Internationale
HC	Hors Concours
JSC	Judges Sub Committee
NF	National Federation (e.g. Equestrian Australia)
NO	National Office (of EA)
OC	Organising Committee
PE	Para-Equestrian
SDA	State Dressage Authority (e.g. State Dressage Committee)
YH	Young Horse

Definitions

Below is a list of definitions of commonly used terms:

a) a **dressage test** is a series of prescribed movements performed by horse and rider and assessed by dressage judges
b) a **dressage competition** is one or more horse and rider combinations performing the same prescribed test and assessed by dressage judges to determine the winner and ranking of performance
c) a **dressage event** is comprised of one or more competitions between individual mounted competitors, performing specified dressage tests
   - an **Official event** is an event approved by the EA, conducted by an EA affiliated club or organisation, and comprised of Competitive and/or Participation competitions
   - a **Competitive** competition is one where grading points can be accrued and recorded
   - a **Participation** competition is one where grading points are not accrued and recorded
d) a **Restricted event** is an event comprised of any level of test, conducted by an EA club for its own club members only and/or club activities for club members against invited EA members to a maximum level of Participation competition, up to and including current Novice test and Para-Equestrian tests
e) the **bell** includes any device used to signal to a competitor
f) **level** refers to the standards of tests. (See rule 4.8.2 *Definition of levels*)
g) **Organising Committee** (OC) refers to an EA-affiliated organisation, group, society or body held to be responsible for the management of any dressage event
h) **competition area** includes the competition arena and immediate surrounding area
i) **exercise area** refers to the entire area covered by the park, centre, oval, showground or similar area where an event is being held
j) **warm-up area** refers to an area designated by the OC as being the warm-up area for competitions
k) **FEI-level** tests refer to FEI level tests run under EA rules; FEI tests refer to FEI tests run at FEI sanctioned events
l) **horse** refers to horses and ponies unless 'pony' is otherwise specified
m) **pony** refers to ponies not exceeding 149cm with shoes or 148cmwithout shoes
n) a **Combination** refers to a horse or pony and rider combination
o) **a Ground Jury** is made up of all of the officiating judges for an event or a competition
p) the **Chef d'Equipe** is a person assigned to be the manager of a team
q) **FEI-sanctioned event** refers to events that have approval from the FEI, i.e. CDI-W, Y, J or P or CDIPE
r) **a Steward** is a trained, and currently accredited FEI or EA official responsible for ensuring that the event is conducted in accordance with the rules
s) the **Chief Judge** is the judge positioned at C for the competition
t) **a gear check** is having the horse and rider's equipment and attire inspected to ensure it complies with the rules

Equestrian **Australian Dressage Committee (EADC)**

The EADC operates under the powers delegated to it by Section 2 of the EA Committee By-Law. The EADC reports to the EA Board. In summary it has the following responsibilities:

a) to formulate the strategic direction of the sport of dressage in Australia and facilitate its implementation
b) to advise and offer recommendations to the Board on national rules and policies for the sport of dressage (including Para-Equestrian)
c) to implement FEI policy and rules applicable to the sport
d) to work cooperatively with the High Performance Manager, National Performance Director, State Dressage Authorities and other key stakeholders
e) in conjunction with the National Education guidelines, maintain, train and appoint adequate numbers of national and FEI-qualified officials, who must be members of EA
f) establish sub-committees for the sport subject to approval by National Board (e.g. the Equestrian Australia Dressage Judges Committee)

g) promote and facilitate conduct of the sport in Australia within EA National policy
h) facilitate the development of the sport for all participants, from youth riders to international level, within the framework of the EA strategic plan
i) assist in raising funds within the framework of national policy of the Board

Equestrian Australian Dressage Judges Committee (EADJC)

The EADJC reports to the Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee (EADC) and is responsible for contributing to the development of policy and monitoring application of policy for the following:

a) encouragement, support and ongoing education of dressage judges
b) assessment and accreditation examinations of national dressage judges, including Para-Equestrian, in Australia
c) selection, development of programs and mentoring of suitable National A level dressage judges who wish to become FEI accredited
d) act as the final arbiter in issues related to judging standards and judges which have not been resolved by State Dressage Authorities (SDA) (These do not include cases that would be subject to a disciplinary tribunal established under the EA Disciplinary By-Law or related to the EA Member Protection Policy)
e) assist in the development and implementation of the National Judges Seminars list
f) assist in the conduct of national and international forums for judges, judge educators and mentors

Equestrian Australia Dressage Para Equestrian Committee (EADPEC)

The EADPEC reports to the Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee (EADC) and is responsible for contributing to the development of policy and monitoring application of policy for but not limited to the following:

a) reviewing the National Rules for PE Dressage and staying abreast of FEI rule changes
b) monitoring the National Calendar including FEI events
c) communicating with EADC
d) informing EADC of any contact changes for Para Equestrian
e) addressing any issues and considering thoughtfully agenda items put forward
f) developing new initiatives to support Para Equestrian in Australia at all levels of participation
g) promoting Para Equestrian and Equestrian Australia positively at all times

SECTION 1 - GENERAL CONDITIONS

1.1 Acceptance of the rules

a) all members of the EA shall accept and be bound by these rules
b) making an entry for any event constitutes implicit acceptance of these rules
c) competitors are responsible for knowing and complying with these rules. It remains the full responsibility of the rider to comply with the equipment rules as outlined
d) breach of the rules may entail elimination unless other penalties are stipulated
e) EA Dressage rules apply from the time the horse arrives on the grounds

1.2 Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse

The following code has been developed by the FEI and adopted by the EA.

1. **At all stages during the preparation and training of competition horses, welfare must take precedence over all other demands**
   a) *good horse management* — Stabling, feeding and training must be compatible with good horse management and must not compromise welfare of the horse. Any practices that could cause physical or mental suffering, in or out of competition, will not be tolerated
   b) *training methods* — Horses must only undergo training that matches their physical capabilities and level of maturity for their respective disciplines. They must not be subjected to any training methods which are abusive, cause fear or for which they have not been properly prepared
   c) *farriery and tack* — Foot care and shoeing must be of a high standard. Tack must be designed and fitted to avoid the risk of pain or injury
   d) *transport* — During transportation, horses must be fully protected against injuries and other health risks. Vehicles must be safe, well ventilated, maintained to a high standard, disinfected regularly and driven by competent staff. Competent handlers must always be available to manage the horses
   e) *transit* — All journeys must be planned carefully and horses permitted regular rest periods with access to food and water in line with FEI guidelines
2. **Horses and riders must be fit, competent and in good health before they are permitted to compete**
   a) *fitness and competence* — Participation in competition must be restricted to fit horses and riders of proven competence
   b) *health status* — No horse showing symptoms of disease, lameness, significant ailments or pre-existing clinical conditions should compete or continue to compete if its welfare would be compromised. Veterinary advice must be sought whenever there is any doubt
   c) *doping and medication* — Abuse of medication and doping is a serious welfare issue and will not be tolerated. After any veterinary treatment, sufficient time must be permitted for the horse's full recovery before competition
   d) *surgical procedures* — Any surgical procedures that threaten a competing horse's welfare or the safety of other horses and/or riders must not be permitted
   e) *pregnant/Recently foaled mares* — A mare must not compete after their fourth month of pregnancy or with foal at foot
   f) *misuse of aids* — Abuse of a horse using natural riding aids or artificial aids (e.g. whips, spurs, etc) will not be tolerated

3. **Events must not prejudice horse welfare**
   a) *competition areas* — Horses must only be trained and compete on suitable and safe surfaces. All obstacles must be designed with the safety of the horse in mind
   b) *ground surfaces* — All ground surfaces which horses walk, train or compete on must be designed and maintained to reduce factors that could lead to injuries. Particular attention must be paid to the preparation, composition and upkeep of surfaces
   c) *extreme weather* — Competitions must not take place in extreme weather conditions if the welfare or safety of the horse may be compromised. Provision must be made for cooling horses quickly after competing in hot or humid conditions. (Refer to Annex C EA Hot Weather Policy)
   d) *stabling at events* — Stables must be safe, hygienic, comfortable, well-ventilated and of sufficient size for the type and disposition of the horse. Appropriate feed and clean bedding, fresh drinking water and washing-down water must always be available
   e) *fitness to travel* — After competition a horse must be fit to travel in accordance with the FEIs guidelines
4. **Every effort must be made to ensure that horses receive proper attention after they have competed and that they are treated humanely when their competition careers are over**
   a) *veterinary treatment* — Veterinary expertise must always be available at an event. If a horse is injured or exhausted during a competition, the rider must dismount and a veterinarian must check the horse
   b) *referral centres* — Wherever necessary, the horse should be collected by ambulance and transported to the nearest relevant treatment centre for further assessment and therapy. Injured horses must be given full supportive treatment before transport
   c) *competition injuries* — The incidence of injuries sustained in competition should be monitored. Ground surface conditions, frequency of competitions and any other risk factors should be examined carefully to indicate ways to minimise injuries
   d) *euthanasia* — If injuries are sufficiently severe, the horse may need to be euthanased by a veterinarian as soon as possible on humane grounds and with the sole aim of minimising suffering
   e) *retirement* — Every effort should be made to ensure that horses are treated sympathetically and humanely when they retire from competition
5. **The FEI urges all those involved in equestrian sport to attain the highest possible levels of education in their areas of expertise relevant to the care and management of the competition horse**

1.3 Abuse of the horse (*Article* 142, FEI General Regulations and EA rules)

No person may abuse a horse during an event or at any other time. 'Abuse' means an action or omission that causes or is likely to cause pain or unnecessary discomfort to a horse, including without limitation any of the following:

a) whipping or beating a horse excessively
b) subjecting a horse to any kind of electric shock device
c) using spurs excessively or persistently
d) jabbing the horse in the mouth with the bit or any other device
e) competing on an exhausted, lame or injured horse
f) 'rapping' a horse
g) abnormally sensitise or desensitise any part of a horse
h) leaving a horse without adequate food, drink or exercise
i) using any device or equipment which causes excessive pain to the horse if it knocks down an obstacle

1.3.1 Reporting of abuse

Anyone witnessing an incident of abuse must report it in the form of a protest (see EA General Regulations *Article 163*) to the OC immediately or within 14 days of the incident to the State EA office, which has the option of passing it to the Disciplinary Tribunal. Competitors are alerted to the fact that, as well as FEI and EA General Regulation 142, cruel application of spurs, whips or bits is illegal in some Australian states and territories.

1.3.2 Unable to fulfil the requirements of the test

Where the Judge at C is of the opinion that the horse and rider combination are not able to fulfil the requirements of the level of the test and/or the performance is not in the best interests of the horse's welfare and/or shows abusive riding, the combination will be eliminated. There is no appeal against this decision.

1.4 Bleeding

If the Judge at C sights fresh blood anywhere on the horse during the test, he or she will stop the horse to check. If the horse shows fresh blood, it will be eliminated. The elimination is final. If the judge clarifies through examination that the horse shows no fresh blood, the test may resume.

The sighting of any fresh blood on the horse at the gear check prior to, during or after the test will entail elimination. There is no appeal against this decision. If a gear check is carried out after the rider has completed the test, and the Gear Steward discovers fresh blood in the horse's mouth or any part of the horse's body, they are to inform the Judge at C, who will eliminate the horse and rider.

A veterinarian may inspect the horse after elimination to decide if the horse is fit to continue in another test and inform the OC in writing of the decision prior to that test. The veterinarian's opinion is final.

1.4.1 Protective covering

Any form of protective skin covering on the horse such as plaster/tape/belly band covering or towel, whether the skin is broken or not, is strictly forbidden at an event and will entail elimination if used. Refer to 5.17.

1.5 Protests, reports, appeals and Yellow Warning Cards

Officials and competitors need to abide by the Codes of Conduct as contained in the EA Member Protection Policy. Refer to the EA General Regulations Articles 163, 164 and 165, EA Codes of Conduct, EA Member Protection Policy and its associated Attachment D1 Complaints Procedures, EA Disciplinary By-laws at www.equestrian.org.au for processes.

Refer to EA General Regulations *Article* 169.6.3 for the potential penalty in relation to complaints about incorrect behaviour towards event officials or any other party connected with the event (e.g. other rider, journalist, public member, etc).

1.5.1 A Yellow Warning Card may be imposed on the parties concerned or the Person Responsible (PR) for the following:

a) abuse of horse (an action or omission involving the mistreatment of a horse). Any incidents considered to be serious Abuse of the Horse may be better dealt with through the formal Protest procedure as outlined in Dressage Rule 1.3.1. However, it is possible to both issue a yellow warning card and pursue formal protest procedure
b) abuse of an Official (including abusive or bullying behaviour directed to an Official and conduct directed toward an Official that denigrates the Official)
c) failure to follow a direction of an Official relating to compliance with these rules

d) serious infringements involving Abuse of horse, Abuse of an Official or failure to follow a direction relating to compliance with these Rules must incur a Yellow Warning Card, unless lodged as a formal protest and subject to EA General Regulations (see above)
e) FEI, National-accredited Stewards, EA Technical Delegates, FEI-accredited Judges and EA National Judge Educators have the authority to issue a Yellow Warning Card to a PR when officiating at an Event. They can be given either by hand or any other suitable means and will state the reason for the penalty. Note that Rule 1.3.2 also provides for elimination by the Chief Judge of a competition for Abusive Riding of a Horse
f) following a meeting with the party concerned at the event Yellow Warning Cards may be issued on the day and when being awarded by an EA or FEI Official should ideally be delivered personally to the party concerned together with an explanation as to why it is being issued and the possible consequences of any further offences being committed. If after reasonable efforts the party concerned cannot be notified during the period of the event that they have received a Yellow Warning Card, they must be notified within 24 hours of the event
g) in the case of riders under the age of 18 years, a Parent/Guardian must be present when the rider is issued with the Yellow Warning Card
h) where a rider receives two or more Yellow Warning Cards within a 12 month period for the same offence the SDA will prepare a report for referral to the EA Branch for consideration under the Disciplinary Bylaws/General Regulations
i) Yellow Warning Cards received at both International and National events will be taken into account
j) the EA Official will advise their State Branch and State Dressage Committee of the issue of ALL Yellow Warning Cards and the reasons for the issue within 48 hours of the event
k) the State Branch shall as soon as possible advise the National Office, who will arrange for the Yellow Warning Card issue to be entered into a National Database and will place the notice on the EA National website
l) the name of the official giving the Yellow Card, their jurisdiction at the event and the name of the party concerned should be listed on the National Database, along with the reason for the decision
m) a Yellow Warning Card is a warning not a penalty and as such there is no Appeal against the issuing of a Yellow Warning Card

1.6 Anti-doping and medication control

Horses and riders may be subject to random in-competition testing. Refer to the EA and FEI Equine Anti-doping and Medication Control Rules (EADMC) and the EA (Rider) Anti-doping Policy. For more information visit www.equestrian.org.au, www.fei.org or www.asada.gov.au.

1.7 Conflict of interest

For the guidelines relating to any conflict of interest, refer to EA General Regulations, *Article* 158 and please note the following additions as detailed below.

1.7.1 People may *not* officiate as a judge of an event if:

a) they are officiating as a veterinary officer for the same event
b) they are a member of the Appeal Committee for the same event
c) they are a Chef d'Equipe or team official for competitors entered in the event

1.7.2 People may *not* officiate as a judge of a competition if:

a) a rider in the competition is a family member
b) they are in a National Elite Squad and are asked to judge a fellow member of the same squad in a Grand Prix competition
c) they have held a riding clinic within 2 weeks prior to the event and a horse and/or rider who has participated in that clinic will be in the competition
d) they are providing or receiving private billeted accommodation from/to a competitor scheduled to be in the competition they are judging
e) they are an owner or part owner of a horse taking part in that competition
f) they are a regular trainer/coach of a horse and/or rider taking part in the competition
g) they have a financial interest in a horse in the competition
h) they are an employee or employer of a competitor in the competition
i) when accepting judging invitations, a judge must declare a conflict of interest in any person or horse who has entered if, within 12 months immediately preceding the event, they have:
    - trained
    - owned/part owned
    - or had any other business interest in that horse and/or rider
j) Judge Educators/Mentors must also follow these principles when carrying out shadow judging/sit-in

SECTION 3 - DRESSAGE EVENTS

3.1 Approval of Official events

Application for permission to hold an Official dressage event or competition, including any Competitive and/or Participation dressage event, must be made in writing to the EA State Branch or SDA.

3.2 Competitions

In regards to holding Official competitions:

a) only the current Official EA tests may be used
b) only current accredited judges are eligible to officiate at Competitive and Participation competitions
c) there is to be a maximum of 35 horses per competition

3.3 Statement of liability

The following disclaimer must be printed on entry forms, schedules and programs:
'Neither the Organising Committee of any competition to which these rules apply, or the EA, accepts any liability for any accident, damage, injury or illness to horses, owners, riders, grounds, spectators or any other person or property whatsoever.'

3.4 Timing of the draw

a) it is strongly recommended to allow 60 to 90 minutes between tests for the same horse, and at least 90 minutes at the FEI levels as these are more strenuous tests
b) where a rider has more than one horse in a competition, 90 minutes should be timetabled between rides to allow rider to go from one horse to the other, however riders may opt for less on the day of event

3.5 Conducting same test for different categories

When organising the range of tests to be offered:

a) if the same test is offered for more than one category, as for example in Competitive and Participation competitions, or horse and pony competitions, each entire competition must be judged separately
b) each category may be conducted consecutively

3.6 Arena requirements

Arenas should be set out to the dimensions shown in the diagram in Annex A. The arena(s):

a) should be level and separated from the public (including photographers and video operators) by a distance all round of 15 metres if possible but at least 10 metres
b) must consist of a low continuous fence about 0.3 metres high
c) are to be placed at least 10 metres apart, preferably 15 metres if room permits
d) should be positioned where judges are not facing the sun
e) the letters placed around the arena should be clearly visible and be placed approximately 0.5 metres outside the arena fence
f) the centre line must have the letter A placed in line (not offset) with C at least 10 metres (preferably 15 metres) back from the arena to allow horses a straight track to enter the arena. The width of the entrance must be at least 2 metres and not greater than 4 metres

The following are **not permitted** in the construction of an arena:

g) stakes which are driven into the ground
h) unbreakable rope
i) unbreakable chain
j) unbreakable tape
k) line marking or rope on the ground
l) thin poles on the ground (e.g. jumping rails)

3.7 Entering the arena (See Annex D *Arena Familiarisation*)

Riders and event organisers must be aware of the following:

a) When presenting to the judge before a test, riders do not have to stop and report to the judge but must make sure the judge has clearly seen their Horse Identification Number
b) for competitions where it is not practical or safe to ride around the outside of the arena prior to entering, the rider is permitted to enter the arena as soon as the previous rider has exited and before the bell is sounded. After the bell has sounded the new rider starts the test from within the arena
c) under special circumstances and conditions, the OC may also permit riders to ride within an outdoor arena
d) for outdoor competitions, if the area surrounding the competition arena is unsuitable for riding on, then the Chief Judge, in consultation with the OC, will make a decision as to whether it is permitted to allow the competitors to enter the arena and complete one lap each way prior to commencing their test. Such a decision ***must*** be announced at least 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the competition. Once the bell has been rung the competitor is required to come down the centre line at A (via the shortest route) and judging commences once the rider is on the centre line
e) after the bell has sounded, the competitor must enter the arena at A as soon as possible
f) failure to enter the arena within 45 seconds of the bell being sounding will entail a penalty of 2 points per judge. Should a rider continue and not enter within a further 30 seconds they will be eliminate
g) entering the arena at A before the bell signal has been given may entail a penalty of 2 points per judge
h) judging commences with the rider's entry at A
i) judging is not influenced by any actions of the competitor prior to their entrance at A
j) at the first halt and final halt competitors must take the reins in one hand to salute. Those who are wearing a top hat have the choice to take the hat off or just nod. This does not apply where the rider is wearing a safety helmet and harness. Failure to salute will entail a 2 point penalty from each judge
k) a whip may be held in either hand at the salute
l) judging ceases when the horse moves forward from the final salute
m) after the final salute the competitor should leave the arena in walk on a long rein at A
n) the competitor must be mounted on leaving the arena at A
o) if the entry at A is open for the first horse of a competition then it must remain open for the rest of the competition

3.8 Dismounting/Fall during test

In regards to dismounting or falling during a test:

a) riders must be mounted on entering and leaving the arena on penalty of elimination
b) if a rider dismounts after entering the arena without a reason acceptable to the judge, no marks will be given to the movement. A dropped whip, hat, spectacles, etc, may be handed to a rider. However, in the case of a dropped whip it is preferable this is done at the end of the test when the rider has left the arena

c) any fall of the horse and/or rider between the entry at A and the end of the test at the final salute, will entail elimination from that test, and the rider may not remount to leave the arena
d) if there is a fall of horse and/or rider after the final halt and salute this will not entail elimination and the rider may not remount to leave the arena
e) in the event of any fall by horse or rider, it will be the decision of the Judge or a representative of the organising committee, (informed if necessary by a doctor or medical officer in the case of a rider or a vet or horse welfare officer in the case of a horse), as to whether the rider or horse can continue to compete at that event
f) if a rider dismounts after the final halt and salute without a reason acceptable to the judge this will entail elimination.

3.9 Test time

With the exception of Freestyles, dressage tests are not timed. The times printed on the test sheets are to be used only as a guide.

3.10 Resistance/Disobedience

In regards to a horse showing resistance or disobedience the following will apply:

a) any resistance which prevents the continuation of the test for a period exceeding 20 seconds shall be penalised by elimination. This also applies to any resistance before entering the dressage arena and within the arena surrounds. However, resistance that may endanger rider, horse, judges or the public will be eliminated for safety reasons earlier than 20 seconds. There is no appeal against this decision
b) a horse leaving the arena with all four feet during a test between the beginning and the end of the test will be eliminated (except in 4-year-old Young Horse competitions at State qualifying events where there is minus 2 points per judge, see rule 9.1)
c) should a horse leave the arena with all four feet after the final halt and salute this will not entail elimination

3.11 Unauthorised assistance

Any intentional outside intervention is considered assistance to a rider or horse and is penalised by elimination. This includes but is not limited to:

a) assistance by voice, signs, etc
b) where background music is provided by organisers riders are not permitted to request specific music, or music at specific times
c) any assistance to get the horse into the dressage arena or the area directly around the arena including being led by another horse around the arena
d) mounted riders may have their horse attached to a lead line when at walk when proceeding to or from the warm up area or competition area but not in or around the competition arena. This will be considered outside assistance and will entail elimination
e) not applicable for riders with exemption cards. Refer to rule 5.18

3.12 Riding in competition, warm-up and exercise areas – refer to Annex D

Organisers of events and riders please note:

a) access to arenas for the purpose of familiarisation is recommended. Access to competition arenas is at the discretion of the Chief Judge for the competition or the OC. Riding in or entering the competition arena without permission will entail elimination
b) the above rule applies also when competition arena(s) are erected on the day(s) preceding an event

c) where an arena is a permanent fixture this rule applies from the time the OC has deemed it to be a competition arena and this time should be publicly advertised
d) twenty-four hours prior to the event starting, a horse may be ridden only by its nominated rider on the competition grounds. However, a groom wearing prescribed safety helmet and boots may walk the horse on a long rein only. Grooms must wear approved footwear (smooth sole with heel) and approved safety helmet with chin strap done up
e) to ensure a level playing field, all competitors are to be given equal warm-up time around the arena. Therefore, if you are not prepared to enter the arena immediately, move away from the competition area until such time as you are ready or your start time arrives
f) only horses entered in the event are permitted to use the warm-up area
g) any horse on the grounds that is not entered in the event is not permitted in the warm-up area (either ridden or led) until after the completion of competitions for that day
h) riders may not be led when mounted in the warm up area. Horses can be led into and out of the warmup arena but once in the warmup arena the groom is to take the horse off the lead line

3.12.1 Lunging in warm up and exercise areas:

Wherever possible a designated area should be set aside for lunging. Non-compliance with lunging in a designated area or with non-permitted equipment will entail elimination. Ideally organizing committees should provide a clearly marked and designated lunging area, preferably enclosed so there is no risk of an escaping horse.

a) lunging by someone other than the nominated rider is permitted
b) work in-hand by someone other than the nominated rider is not permitted
c) wherever possible a designated area should be set aside for lunging
d) non-compliance with lunging in a designated area may entail elimination
e) the lunging of a rider mounted in the saddle is not permitted anywhere at the event

Also see 5.13 Lunging equipment

3.13 Scale of marks

Under both EA and FEI rules, the scale of marks is as follows:

10 – excellent	5 – **marginal (EA)** (sufficient – FEI)
9 – very good	4 – insufficient
8 – good	3 – fairly bad
7 – fairly good	2 – bad
6 – satisfactory	1 – very bad
0 – not executed (means practically nothing was performed)	

a) all half marks from 0.5 to 9.5 may also be used both for movements and collective marks, at the discretion of the judge – this also includes freestyle competitions
b) whole marks should be written as 6.0, 7.0, 8.0, etc
c) in freestyle tests 0.1 decimals may be used for the artistic marks

3.14 Called tests

In regards to a test being called:

a) tests may **not** be called
   - at any level above Advanced at any event
   - in any competition where the Conditions of Entry excludes it
   - at any FEI-sanctioned competition (e.g. CDI-W)
b) where callers are permitted, it is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that only the printed text, or extracts thereof, is read out and that no other form of assistance is given
c) the caller may read each movement *once or twice only*. Failure to observe this rule may entail elimination

3.15 Execution of tests

All movements contained in tests must be:

a) executed in the order laid down by the test sheet
b) carried out at a specified point of the arena

In a movement that must be carried out at a certain point or letter of the arena, it should be done at the moment when the competitor's body is above this point or letter. In transitions where the horse approaches the letter from a diagonal or perpendicular to the point on track where the letters are positioned, the transitions must be done when the horse's nose reaches the track at the letter so that the horse is straight in the transition.

Riding with the reins in both hands is compulsory in all Dressage competitions. The exceptions to this rule are:

c) leaving the arena after the final salute
d) during a Freestyle test as part of the degree of difficulty

3.15.1 Holding the reins

Riding with the reins in both hands is compulsory in all Dressage competitions. The exceptions to this rule are:

a) leaving the arena after the final salute
b) during a Freestyle test as part of the degree of difficulty
c) a discreet 'pat on the neck' for a well performed exercise, or for reassurance, is perfectly acceptable (as is the situation of a rider needing to wipe a fly from their eye, or other situations such as adjusting clothing, saddle pads etc)

If the rider intentionally takes the reins into one hand to use either the reins or the other hand to produce more impulsion from the horse, or to promote applause from the spectators during the test, it will be considered a fault and will be reflected in the mark for both the movement and the collective mark.

In the competition arena, under no circumstances is a rider to take the reins in one hand, whip in the other and use it on the horse – such action will entail elimination

3.16 Use of voice

The use of the voice or clicking the tongue as an aid by the rider repeatedly is a serious fault, which will be penalised by -2 marks from the judges who hear it.

NOTE: The use of voice is permitted in some cases in Para-Equestrian Dressage as an aid. See rule 11.7 for more details.

3.17 Penalties and Errors of Course

A penalty is minus 2 marks from each judge for a range of instances as per Annex E. All judges must have the same number of penalties recorded.

Error of Course, whether the bell is sounded or not, must be penalised and is cumulative. The penalties for an error of course are as follows:

EA level tests (up to Advanced)

- the first by - 2 marks
- the second by - 4 additional marks
- the third by elimination.

FEI level tests

Senior, U25 and Young Rider

- first error - -2% from total score
- second error – elimination

Young Horse, FEI Children, Pony and Junior and Para

- first error – 0.5% from total score
- second error - 1% from total score
- third error elimination

a) if the bell is not sounded when an error of course is made, and the test requires the same movement to be repeated and the error is made again, the rider is only penalised once. The Chief Judge must be aware of the effect of one movement on the next and where mirror images occur, in order to be prompt in notifying the competitor

b) if eliminated, if time permits and the type of event or competition is appropriate, the Chief Judge may invite the rider to continue the test to the end with the marks being awarded in the ordinary way. In such a case it is not necessary for the collective marks to be completed

c) the use of the rider's voice, referred to in rule 3.16, is not an Error of Course

d) it is not always necessary for a judge to ring the bell for an error of course. Below are instances that will and will not require the sounding of the bell. However, not all cases can be quoted and it is the Chief Judge who will decide to sound the bell. In deciding not to ring the bell the judge must consider the effect this will have on the rest of the test

The Chief Judge WILL ring the bell:	**The Chief Judge need NOT ring the bell:**
• when the rider enters the arena at the incorrect gait • when the rider turns right instead of left or vice versa • when the rider omits a movement • when a movement is the first of a mirror image and the competitor rides rising trot instead of sitting trot and vice versa and/or an incorrect circle size	• when the final halt is at X instead of G or vice versa • When the reins are not taken in one hand at the salute • when the rider makes a transition not clearly at the marker • cantering up the centre line from A, the rider makes a pirouette at D instead of at L • the rider does rising trot instead of sitting trot or vice versa in a non-mirrored movement

e) if the Chief Judge does ring the bell, they should show the rider the point at which they are to re-take the test, which could be a movement prior to where the error occurred. Judging will re-commence when the rider reaches the point where the error of course occurred

f) in principle, a rider is not permitted to repeat a movement of the test unless the Chief Judge decides on it being an error of course (rings the bell)

g) however, if the rider has started the execution of a movement and attempts to do the same movement again, the judges must consider only the first movement shown and at the same time penalise for an Error of Course

h) each judge must have the same number of errors marked on their sheets with a notation explaining where the error was made. The Chief Judge must make the final decision as to the number of errors if there is a discrepancy

i) if the judges have not noted an error, the competitor has the benefit of the doubt

NOTE– Errors of course are to be deducted from the total score from the test sheet of each judge.

3.17.1 Other errors with penalties – refer to Annex E

All of the following are considered errors, and 2 penalty points will be deducted for each one, but they are not cumulative and will not result in elimination (including for Freestyle tests):

a) a rider entering the space around the arena with whip (where not permitted) or riding in a dressage arena with a whip (when not permitted) or with boots on the horse's legs or with discrepancy in dress (e.g. lack of gloves). See rule 10.6 for whip penalties at FEI events and Australian and State Championships
b) if the test has already started before the above discrepancies have been noticed, the Judge at C stops the rider and, if needed and where possible, an assistant may enter the arena to remove the item(s). The rider then continues the test, either starting from the beginning (from the inside of the fence) or from the movement where they were stopped. The marks given before they were stopped are not changed
c) a rider entering the arena before the sound of the bell
d) a rider not entering the arena within 45 seconds after the bell
e) a rider not saluting at either the first or last halt
f) a rider not taking reins in one hand at the salute
g) in Freestyle tests, a rider not giving the signal to start music within 45 seconds, entering the arena after more than 30 seconds of music
h) if the Freestyle test is longer or shorter than stipulated on the test sheet 0.5% will be deducted from the total artistic score

3.18 Lameness

In the instance of lameness displayed by the horse riders and judges please note:

a) in the case of marked lameness, the Judge at C informs the competitor that they are eliminated
b) there is no appeal against this decision
c) a horse that has been eliminated in a competition for lameness cannot compete in any further tests on the day unless it has been deemed fit to compete (in writing) after an examination by a veterinarian approved by the OC. A copy of the examination report is to be delivered to the OC

3.19 Awards and placings

Awards are made to place getters, irrespective of percentage received. The following is a guide:

a) up to 5 starters, ribbons to 3rd place
b) up to 15 starters, ribbons to 5th place
c) more than 15 starters, ribbons to 8th place
d) in case of equality of percentage for any of the first three places, the higher total of the collective mark/s, including coefficients, will decide on the placings. If these marks are tied, placings remain tied
e) when there is equality of places from fourth place and below, the competitors are joint equal place getters

In the following cases, places will be determined as follows:

f) in the case of equality of marks for first place in a Freestyle test, the combination with the higher mark, including coefficients for artistic presentation, will be the winner. If there is still equality, then they are equal winners
g) for the purpose of a one-off trophy or point-score award, if a clear winner is required, one of the following criteria should be decided upon and included in the Conditions of Entry:
    - total the collective marks of each tied competitor. The one with the highest total collective marks is the winner
    - if two tests are involved, the award should be to the competitor with the highest score in the highest test involved

For the purpose of deciding a Champion at a level, if a clear winner is required the following criteria will decide the winner:

h) first placed horses will be allocated 35 points
i) second placed will be allocated 34 points
j) third placed will be allocated 33 points and so on to the last placed horse
k) competitors must compete in both tests at level to be eligible for champion points
l) the Champion is the horse with the highest combined points of the two tests
m) in the event of a tie, the Champion will be the horse with the highest aggregate percentage at that level
n) in the event of a further tie, the horse with the highest percentage in the higher competition at that level will be deemed the Champion

3.20 Prize money

In regards to the offer and payment of prize money in competitions:

a) all prize money and prizes are made to the owner/s of the horse/pony
b) in the following Official events, if an entry fee is charged, then prize money or goods in kind must be given to at least the first three placings and the value of the last prize must not be less than the entry fee:
   - Australian Championships
   - State Championships
   - Regional Championships
c) at all other events the payment and amount of prize to be paid is at the discretion of the OC and:
   - the details regarding number of prizes is at the discretion of the OC
   - the payment of prize money to horses and ponies may be different
   - OCs that intend paying prize money should make this intention known in the schedule
d) prize money must be awarded according to the schedule

3.21 Number/Level of judges required for Official Competitive and Official Participation Competitions

3.21.1 Number /Level of judges required for Official Competitive competitions

The EADC strongly recommends that a minimum of 2 appropriately qualified judges officiate at every Official Competitive competition. NOTE: For Australian Dressage Championships and some other qualifications, competitors must submit 3 scores from competitions with at least 2 judges officiating.

If the minimum 2 judges cannot be procured:

a) one A level judge may judge up to Advanced level
b) one B level judge may judge up to Medium level
c) one C level judge may judge up to Elementary level
d) one D level judge may judge up to Novice level
e) one E or F level judge may judge up to Prelim level
f) a G level judge may judge Official competitive Preliminary with another judge of at least F level

Prior to the event, organising committees must notify the SDA in writing when only one judge will be officiating.

In exceptional circumstances, applications for exemptions from any of the requirements above, must be made in writing to the SDA by text or email preferably at least 7 days before the event. The SDA is to report to the EADC when these exemptions are granted.

Note: This does not include the number of judges required for State or Australian Championships. For more information on this please refer to Section 10. For details about judges for Para Equestrian (PE) events please see rule 11.10.1.

When an OC wishes to use a foreign judge who is a national judge in their own country but not an FEI-accredited judge, the OC must provide details in writing and seek the approval of the EADJC.

3.21.2 Number/Level of judges required for Official Participation competitions

- one judge of F level or above may judge Participation competitions at Preliminary and Novice level
- a G level judge may judge Participant Preliminary as a single judge but for Novice level Participant competitions they must judge with another judge of at least F level

3.22 Interruptions and risk management

a) in case of any technical failure or unforeseen circumstance that will interfere with the Competition, the Judge at C shall ring the bell
b) it is recommended that in clear cases of external disturbance, the same procedure is applied
c) during extreme weather conditions or other extreme situations, the Judge at C may ring the bell to interrupt the test
d) the Technical Delegate/OC can request the Judge at C to stop the Competition.
e) the affected rider should return to complete their test from point of interruption when conditions so permit e.g. loose horse/lightning

SECTION 4 - CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

4.1 Authority to determine eligibility of horse and/or rider for competition

EA or affiliated organization conducting the dressage competition(s) on behalf of EA shall be empowered to refuse any entry, with or without stating reasons. They shall be the sole judges of the eligibility according to these rules of any horse or rider to compete in any particular level and may transfer any entry of any such horse or rider to any lower or higher-ranking level.

4.2 Entry of horses and riders

After the close of entries:

a) any change of rider must be notified, in writing, to the OC no later than 40 minutes prior to the start of the competition. The change must be for a legitimate reason and is at the discretion of the OC. However, a rider of a horse may not be changed if another rider has ridden the horse on the day, either in warm-up or in a competition
b) after the close of entries a competitor may only substitute a horse with the approval of the OC and no later than 48 hours before the start of an event
c) the draw position cannot be changed without the permission of the OC
d) the draw is to be strictly adhered to and changes can only be made by the OC
e) riders with two horses in the draw must compete in the order that the horse/rider combination is drawn
f) a horse may only be ridden by one rider for the entire event except for promotional competitions (e.g. Derby)
g) a horse may only be entered and compete once in each competition (including a HC entry)
h) the number of horses per competitor is at the discretion of the OC

4.3 Scratchings/Withdrawals

In regards to any scratching or withdrawing from a test or competition:

a) a competitor may withdraw any or all of the horses that he/she has entered, subject to the Conditions of Entry
b) a refund may only be made if documented proof (i.e. veterinary or medical certificate) is produced within 24 hours of the completion of the event to the Event Secretary
c) a refund shall be a minimum of 50% of the entry fee

4.4 Gear check

a) a gear check is compulsory for each test.
b) all competitors must present to the Gear Steward
c) unless otherwise specified in the schedule or on the notice board the gear check for each test will take place prior to each test
d) failure to have a gear check will incur elimination

4.5 Youth events

Competitions and activities for riders aged 10–21 years on horses (from 8 years for pony riders) are generally known in Australia as ‘youth’ events. Young Rider, however, is a specific age category of FEI Competition. Other FEI categories include Children, Juniors, and Pony Riders. Refer to the EA General Regulations, *Article 124 for the age groups*

Youth events may be offered at any level of competitive dressage

4.6 Types of competitions at Official events

The following types of competitions may be held at any Official event conducted by an EA affiliated body:

a) **Official Competitive competitions** using current official EA tests from Preliminary to Grand Prix, including Freestyle tests and Young Horse tests. Competitions may be limited to rider age groupings (e.g. Juniors, Young Riders) or to ponies or AOR riders only
b) **Participation competitions** using EA tests from Preparatory to Novice level (including Freestyles)
c) In addition, EA Para Dressage tests and FEI Para-Equestrian-level tests may be used in participation competitions (including Freestyles). See Section 11 *Para-Equestrian dressage* for further detail

4.6.1 Amateur Owner Rider (AOR)

Amateur Owner Rider (AOR) is a division of Official Competitive riders. All amateur owner riders must meet the following criteria:

a) the rider must be a Competitive member of their state branch of Equestrian Australia
b) the rider must not have competed in a FEI Sanctioned CDI (PSG- GP) or CDI-W in the prior 3 calendar years
c) the horse must have a life registration with Equestrian Australia
d) the horse/pony registration lodged with Equestrian Australia must reflect the name of the amateur owner rider as owner or part-owner of the horse. Leased horses are eligible if the amateur owner rider competitor is reflected as the lessee on the EA horse registration of that horse
e) the rider's principle source of income must not be obtained from sponsorship, breeding, breaking, training, riding and/or coaching any horse or rider for the previous 2 years
f) the rider must not have cash sponsorship per annum above the value of $500
g) the horse/pony must be primarily ridden and trained by the rider/owner with only periodic ridden assistance by person(s) other than the owner, specifically during the period 4 weeks prior to the event
h) the rider must be aged 21 and over – can enter in the calendar year in which they turn 21
i) the division is for Official Competitive competitions. The Organising Committees may run this division at any level (ideally at all levels Preliminary - GP) and it can be run either within the competition or separately
j) Organising Committees must designate the AOR on the draw if there is a separate competition conducted within the one competition
k) for a State/Regional/Club Leader Board it would be ideal to select several events at which scores will count towards the annual Leader Board

4.7 Types of competitions at Restricted events

In regards to the types of competition that may be held at Restricted events:

a) competitions may include any level of EA test from Preparatory to Grand Prix and Para-Equestrian, but are restricted to the conducting club's members only
b) competition may also include club activities for club members against invited EA members to a maximum level of Participation competition (see rule 3.13b) up to and including the current Novice tests and all Para-Equestrian tests

4.8 Conditions of Entry for horses and ponies for all levels of Competitive and Participation competition

a) the Condition of Entry rules must be adhered to otherwise the entry may be declined by the OC or the combination eliminated if there is a protest. All Official events and Official competitions, whether Competitive or Participation, are conducted under EA rules. They are sponsored by, or run on behalf of EA. Please refer to the EA General Regulations for membership requirements for Official competitions
b) it is an offence under the EA Disciplinary By-Law for a rider to compete a horse/pony below its graded level

c) to promote development, all Official EA events/competitions (including FEI-level competitions) are open to both horses and ponies. The exceptions to this are the Australian Dressage Championships. State Dressage Championships, Australian and State Pony Championships and Prix St Georges Stars of the Future. Exceptions for Young and Junior rider competitions are to be approved by EADC
d) in Official Competitive and Participation competitions any pony entries received may compete in any order in the competition
e) separate prizes may be awarded for horses and ponies. It is strongly recommended that if there are three ponies or more in a competition, that the ponies are awarded prizes separately
f) organisers may still schedule and advertise separate pony competitions, particularly if a test is expected to be oversubscribed, or anticipate sufficient entries in a test from both ponies and horses (i.e. up to 35 of each) which is too many to be judged by the same judge in a single day
g) if Para-Equestrian riders are included in an Official competition but regarded as a separate competition, then they should be grouped together at the beginning or at the end of the draw (e.g. Grade 4 and Grade 5)

4.8.1 Requirements for horses and ponies for Official Competitive competitions

Horses and ponies entered for Official Competitive competition:

a) must be registered with EA and owned by a current financial EA member. EA registration papers must be made available on the day of competition
b) must have a current Dressage Performance Card/Competition Licence (see rule 4.14.3.4)
c) horses and ponies competing up to and including **advanced**:
   - must only enter and compete in 2 consecutive levels per an event (regardless of number of days)
   - can enter and compete in no more than 3 tests in one day. This may include a Freestyle or Young Horse competition
d) for horses and ponies competing **PSG and above:**
   - can enter and compete in no more than 2 FEI-level tests per day and no more than 2 consecutive FEI levels per event. This may include a Freestyle test. If competing in an EA FEI test horses can only compete in one other EA test on the day
   - a horse that has competed PSG may only compete in one Advanced level test on the same day

4.8.2 Definition of levels table

Level	Tests
Preparatory	4 current EA tests
Preliminary	3 current EA tests
Novice	3 current EA tests
Elementary	3 current EA tests
Medium	3 current EA tests
Advanced	3 current EA tests
Prix St Georges	FEI PSG
Intermediate I	FEI Intermediate I
FEI Medium Tour (Intro GP)	FEI Intermediate A, FEI Intermediate B
Intermediate II	FEI Intermediate II
Grand Prix	FEI Grand Prix FEI GP Special and FEI GP U25 Test

4.8.3 Table of starting possibilities for levels and freestyles

Level of national competition for horse and rider combinations (only 2 consecutive levels permitted)	Level of Freestyle horse and rider combinations can compete in
Preparatory/Preliminary	Nil
Preliminary/Novice	Novice
Novice/Elementary	Novice or Elementary
Elementary/Medium	Elementary or Medium
Medium/Advanced	Medium or Advanced
Advanced/Prix St Georges	Advanced or Intermediate
Prix St Georges/Intermediate I	Intermediate
Intermediate I/Medium Tour (refer to Definition of Levels)	Intermediate or Medium Tour (not both)
Medium Tour/Intermediate II (refer to Definition of Levels)	FEI Medium Tour
Intermediate II/U 25 GP	Grand Prix
Intermediate II, Grand Prix, Grand Prix Special	Grand Prix

Additional notes:

a) FEI Young Rider tests/competition is equivalent to Prix St Georges level
b) FEI Pony tests/competition is equivalent to Elementary level
c) FEI Junior tests/competition is equivalent to Medium level
d) Intermediate Freestyle competition is limited to combinations that have achieved at least 58% in the Prix St Georges or Intermediate I
e) Grand Prix Special competition is limited to the 15 highest-placed combinations in the Grand Prix. Such combinations must have achieved at least 60% in the Grand Prix competition
f) Medium Tour Freestyle competition is limited to combinations who have achieved at least 58% in the Intermediate A or the Intermediate B
g) Grand Prix Freestyle is limited to combinations that have achieved at least 58% in the Grand Prix and 60% at FEI-sanctioned events
h) at FEI-sanctioned events the FEI Prix St Georges and/or FEI Intermediate I competitions are the qualifying tests for the FEI Intermediate Freestyle
i) The FEI level GPCDN held at FEI sanctioned events in Australia is open to combinations that have on two occasions (in the 12 months prior to close of entries) achieved 60% at level
j) at FEI-sanctioned events the FEI Grand Prix competition is the qualifying test for the FEI Grand Prix Freestyle

4.8.3.1 Grading points for entries

In relation to a horse or pony's grading points when entering a competition:

a) grading is assessed as at the closing date of entries
b) where an event is cancelled/postponed:
   - if the event can be re-scheduled within 6 weeks of the original date then a horse or pony may compete at the level they were as at the closing date of entries for the original event
   - if the event is rescheduled more than 6 weeks from the original date and in the meantime the horse or pony has been upgraded, the horse must compete at its new graded level

4.8.3.2 Eligibility of horses, ponies and combinations for each level

In Official Competitive competitions the following criteria apply at the closing date of entries (see table below):

Graded level	Eligibility of Horses and Ponies for each level
National Level Competitions	
Preliminary/Novice	Horses/ponies with less than 40 upgrading points gained in Elementary and above
Elementary	Horses/ponies with less than 40 upgrading points gained in Medium and above
Medium	Horses/ponies with less than 40 upgrading points gained in Advanced and above
Advanced	Horses/ponies with less than 30 upgrading points gained in FEI competitions
Prix St Georges and Intermediate I tests including FEI Young Rider tests	Combinations must have achieved 60% or above on 2 occasions in Official Advanced competitions to be eligible to compete PSG, Intermediate 1. In the event that the competitions are held at the one event, they must be judged by a different panel of judges
Intermediate A and B	Combinations must have gained at least 60% in an Official Intermediate I competition to compete in Intermediate A and B or Intermediate II
Intermediate II and EA Grand Prix, including U25 Grand Prix	Combinations must have gained 60% on two occasions in Intermediate A, B or Intermediate II to be eligible to compete Grand Prix and U25 Grand Prix. For GP CDNs held in conjunction with FEI Sanctioned events see Rule 4.8.3.i)
FEI National Competitions	Horses and riders providing proof of previous experience at the FEI level may apply to the EADC to waive qualification scores
FEI- sanctioned Competitions - CDI PSG, Inter I, A, B, Intermediate II, GP, CDI U25, CDIY, CDIJ & CDIP	
Within Australia	Refer to rule 10.18.3
Outside Australia	Combinations wishing to represent Australia overseas at FEI sanctioned events outside of Australia refer to rule 10.18.2

Note: For new combinations at EA FEI levels, horses and riders providing proof of previous experience at the FEI level may apply to EADC to waive qualification scores based on evidence provided

4.8.3.3 Heights of horses and ponies

In regards to the heights for horses and ponies:

a) horses must exceed 149cm with shoes or 148cm without shoes
b) ponies must not exceed 149cm with shoes or 148cm without shoes
c) the height of the pony is to be included on entry forms
d) it is recommended that ponies carry a current EA height certificate to verify height, especially for taller ponies
e) a pony is to comply with the National Measuring Rules within 12 months of competing in Official Events – and MUST be measured before entering a separated Pony Official competition, including State and Australian Championship

Where a protest is lodged against the height of a pony in accordance with EA measuring rules the pony must be re-measured within 30 days of the protest.

f) the SDA will determine if a transfer from horse to pony status or from pony to horse status is required and advise the EA State Branch accordingly
g) all current grading points will transfer with a change in status
h) a new Dressage Card/Performance Licence will be issued
i) only current measurement certificates approved by the EA, will be accepted

Please Note: Current EA Measuring Rules apply

4.8.3.4 Age of horses/ponies

In regard to the age of horses and ponies:

a) horses/ponies must be aged 3 years or over to be eligible for a Dressage Performance Card/Competitor Licence. To be eligible for a Dressage Performance Card/Competition Licence, the age of the horse is determined by its natural birthday
b) horses/ponies must be aged 5 years or over to be eligible to compete in Para-Dressage.
c) the calculation of the age of horse/pony depends on the hemisphere where the horse/pony was born. The country of birth is used to determine the age of the horse/pony
d) for horses born in the Southern Hemisphere, and all Young Horses (see rule 5.1.b) age is assessed from August 1 of the year of birth. For horses born in the Northern Hemisphere age is assessed from January 1 of the year of birth.
e) the following formula is to be used to calculate the age of horses:
   - A = age (in years)
   - C = current year
   - B = year of birth

		Before and until 31 July	From and after 1 August
Born	Before and until 31 July	A = C – B	A = C – B + 1
	From and after 1 August	A = C – B – 1	A = C – B

4.8.3.5 Ages of horses and ponies for FEI-level tests at EA events and FEI-sanctioned events in Australia and internationally

Horses/ponies of any origin may take part provided they are aged as per the following table:

6 years and over	FEI Pony tests, FEI Junior tests
7 years and over	FEI Prix St Georges, FEI Young Rider tests, FEI Young Rider Freestyle, Intermediate I and Intermediate Freestyle (EA events and FEI- sanctioned Events)
8 years and over	Intermediate A, Intermediate B, Intermediate II, Medium Tour Freestyle, FEI Grand Prix, FEI Grand Prix Special, FEI Grand Prix Freestyle (EA events and FEI sanctioned events)
FEI-**Young Horses**	Age for all Young Horses is assessed from 1 August, regardless of where they were born

4.8.3.6 Age and eligibility of imported horses/ponies

In relation to age and eligibility:

a) horses born in the Northern Hemisphere must be at least 7 years of age on 1 January to be eligible to enter FEI and FEI levels (excluding FEI Pony Tests), and 8 years to enter Grand Prix
b) horses born in the Southern Hemisphere must be at least 7 years of age on 1 August to be eligible to enter FEI and FEI levels (excluding FEI Pony Tests), and 8 years to enter Grand Prix
c) an imported horse/pony must be graded by the SDA, and owners of the horse/pony registered with a foreign National Federation must:
   - provide the SDA with written evidence of overseas performances. If the horse/pony does not have any performances and is to be competed at FEI level, the requirement as set out in rule 4.8.3.2 must be completed. Refer also to rule 4.8.3.5

4.8.4 Age eligibility of riders

Riders may enter **Official** competitions:

a) from the start of the calendar year they turn 10 years of age when riding horses
b) from the start of the calendar year they turn 8 years of age when riding ponies
c) provided they are a Junior or Senior financial member of EA in the appropriate category

4.8.4.1 Age categories used in EA Youth Competitions

a) Junior Rider is eligible to compete from the start of the year they turn 10 (the year they turn 8 if riding a pony) to the end of the year they turn 18
b) a Young Rider is eligible to compete in Young Rider competitions from the start of the year in which they turn 16 years of age to the end of the year they turn 21
c) a Young Rider or a Junior Rider is eligible to compete in their respective Young Rider competitions or Junior competitions and Official competitions on the same horse at the same event but no more than 3 tests per day (refer also to rule 4.8.4)
d) a Junior of the appropriate age may enter and compete in Junior and Young Rider competitions at the same event, providing they ride a different horse in each competition
e) all riders may ride in Young Pony competitions from the year they turn 10 and Young Horse competitions from the year they turn 12

4.8.5 Horse Identification numbers and Stallion ID at events

Horse Identification numbers are compulsory for identification purposes and must be used at all times at an event so that the horse can be identified by all Officials including Stewards.

a) two numbers are required to be worn when competing – one on each side of the horse - preferably attached to both sides of the saddlecloth, or both sides of the bridle and must be clearly legible
b) the Horse Identification Number must also be worn as described whenever the horse is being ridden/lunged/led/tethered or grazed from the time of their arrival on the grounds until the end of the event
c) identification numbers shall be discreet on white background, the colour of the numbers may vary
d) green stallion identification discs or number holders as issued by EA and must be worn by stallions at all times at an event
e) identification must be clearly displayed on both sides of the stallion's head (attached to bridle or halter) or both sides of the saddle cloth: as per EA regulations
f) horse Identification numbers must be worn in addition to stallion discs, either as the EA issued green bridle identification number holder or the green EA issued stallion disc identification plus horse ID number

Failure to correctly wear Horse identification Numbers will incur the following:

g) when led, grazed, lunged or ridden on the grounds. An initial verbal warning followed by the issuing of a Yellow Warning Card for further non-compliance
h) if the horse does enter in the competition arena not wearing correct identification numbers, -2 points per judge is deducted

4.9 Upgrading points

Riders must be aware of the following in regards to upgrading points:

a) a Competitor Licence /Dressage Performance Card must be held to acquire upgrading points
b) a horse or pony must be registered with EA to acquire grading points
c) upgrading points are only accrued at levels ABOVE the horse or pony's current grading (e.g. if horse is graded Preliminary/Novice it can only gain upgrading points in Elementary and above)
d) for upgrades up to and including Medium level, a horse or pony must gain 40 upgrading points in levels higher than their current grading, to be graded at the next consecutive level (e.g. if a horse currently graded Preliminary/Novice, competes Elementary, Medium or above and gains 40 grading points at these higher levels the horse is then upgraded to Elementary). A horse/pony needs at least 30 upgrading points to upgrade from Medium to Advanced
e) a horse/pony can only be upgraded one level at a time
f) horses and ponies are graded on a points system based on percentage gained in tests
g) points are accrued when the horse or pony gains 61% or above in Official Competitive competitions from Elementary level and above
h) points gained at Official competitions outside Australia will also be counted
i) when, for any reason, the height of a horse/pony changes and they are required to change from a pony to a horse (or vice versa), the grading and any upgrading points of the horse/pony shall be retained in the new category
j) upgrading points are accrued for all Official competitive competitions regardless of any age restriction

4.9.1 Awarding of upgrading points

In relation to the awarding of points:

a) upgrading points are awarded for ALL Official Competitive competitions, including youth competitions (with the exception of Freestyle, Young Horse and Participation competitions), regardless of any restrictions (e.g. age and breed of horse, etc)
b) upgrading points are awarded based on percentage only regardless of placing
c) points gained are determined as:
    - between 61% to 62.999% = 1 point
    - between 63% to 64.999% = 2 points
    - between 65% to 66.999% = 3 points
    - between 67% to 68.999% = 4 points
    - between 69% to 70.999% = 5 points
    - between 71% to 72.999% = 6 points
    - 73% and over = 7 points

4.10 Downgrading of horses/ponies

Applications for downgrading of horses/ponies for any category of competition must be directed to the relevant SDA and the following apply:

a) applications for downgrading must be made in writing with supporting documentation
b) an application to downgrade a horse/pony must be made or endorsed by the registered owner or lessee
c) each request will be considered separately and, on its merit

d) the decision to downgrade and to what level is entirely at the discretion of the SDA
e) downgrading may occur only once in the duration of a rider's partnership with the horse/pony
f) downgrading may occur more than once in a horse/pony's lifetime but must not occur more than once in a 2-year period
g) will only apply to those graded at least Elementary level and above
h) must not exceed a maximum of three levels (e.g. Advanced to Novice refer to rule 4.8.2 for definition of levels)
i) if the horse is ridden by someone other than the rider for whom the downgrade is requested, it must compete at its previous level and any grading points earned will be awarded in relation to that previous level
j) when a downgrade is granted the combination must fulfil any criteria regarding eligibility of horses/ponies for each level as outlined in 4.8.3.2

4.11 Conditions of Entry for Participation competitions

For riders wishing to compete in Participation level competitions:

a) refer to the EA General Regulation for membership requirements
b) the minimum age for riders on ponies is from the start of the year in which they turn 8 and on horses from the start of the year in which they turn 10
c) one rider per horse is permitted at any event
d) please refer to your state authority in relation to state-specific membership requirements
e) refer to the EA General Regulations for any horse/pony registration requirements
f) there is no restriction on the height of the horse/pony
g) if a horse/pony is graded, it may only compete at its graded level or higher, or HC at a lower level

4.11.1 General

Other items to note for Participation-level competitions:

a) only clubs or organisations affiliated with EA are eligible to conduct Participation competitions
b) competitions are conducted under the rules of EA with some minor exceptions as mentioned (e.g. height, age, etc)
c) Participation activity is limited to a maximum Novice level and includes Para-Equestrian competitions (refer to rule 11.4)
d) Participation competitions do not attract grading points
e) Participation competitions can be conducted in conjunction with Competitive competitions
f) affiliated organisations restricting competitions to their members only and using EA tests may only classify such competitions as Restricted events
g) where the same test is offered for more than one membership category (e.g. Competitive and Participation) each entire competition must be judged separately
h) each category may be conducted consecutively

4.12 Hors Concours (HC)

In relation to competing as Hors Concours riders please note:

a) horses/ponies may compete HC at any level
b) HC entries must be declared in writing prior to the start of the competition
c) horses/ponies entered HC are not eligible for any prize or prize money
d) grading points will not be awarded
e) for Official Competitive competitions all HC entries must carry correct EA registration and comply in every way with the rules governing an Official Competitive competition

4.13 Declaration

It is obligatory in some events that competitors declare their intention of competing or withdrawing in order to ensure the smooth running of the schedule of competitions. The details of such requirement must be shown in the schedule.

4.14 Conditions of Entry table

Conditions of Entry table		OFFICIAL COMPETITIVE COMPETITION		OFFICIAL PARTICIPATION COMPETITION	YOUNG HORSE and PONY COMPETITIONS
		HORSE	PONY		
HORSE or PONY	**Height**	exceeding 149 cm with shoes, 148cm without shoes	**not** exceeding 149 cm with shoes, 148cm without shoes	may be open height or split horses /ponies depending on OC requirements	**Horse:** exceeding 149 cm with shoes, 148 cm without shoes **Pony:** not exceeding 149cm with shoes 148cms without shoes
	EA registered	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Performance Card/ Competition Licence available from date of 3rd birthday	Yes	Pony Dressage Card **and** current measurement cert	No	Yes
	Official bridle number	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
	Grading points	Yes	Yes	No	Official but no grading points
	Min age of horse and birthdates FEI ages as of: **1 August** – Sth. Hem **1 January** – Nth. Hem	EA Tests: **3** FEI Tests: **7** Grand Prix: **8**	EA Tests: **3** FEI Pony Tests: **6**	As per Competitive	YH: **4**, **5**, or **6** on 1 August only
RIDER	**Age – Minimum**	Start of year turn 10	Start of year turn 8	Same as Competitive	YH: start of year turn 12
	Age – Maximum	Nil	Nil	Same as Competitive	YH: Nil
	EA Membership	Yes	Yes	must be financial with EA (Participation or higher) **or** with host club	Yes
	Host club membership	Not Required	Not Required		Not Required
TESTS	**Consecutive levels entered**	Max 2	Max 2	Max 2	Max 2
	Max EA tests In one day (includes Official, Participation, Freestyles, YH)	Max 3	Max 3	Max 3	Max 3
	Max FEI tests in one day (including Freestyles)	Max 2	Max 2	Max 2	Max 2

SECTION 5 - DRESS, SADDLERY AND EQUIPMENT

5.1 Compulsory dress by level and penalties for incorrect dress and equipment

The following dress is permitted according to the level of competition

Penalties for incorrect or non permitted dress, saddlery and equipment are outlined in Annex E

a) if dress, saddlery or equipment is not permitted, wearing such items will entail elimination
b) the wearing of incorrect attire for the appropriate level will incur a penalty of - 2 points from each judge

5.1.1 Preliminary to Advanced levels

Riders competing in Preliminary to Advanced levels are required to wear:

a) white, off-white, light canary or beige jodhpurs or breeches
b) a short coat (refer to rule 5.8 for permitted colours)
   - a tailcoat in permitted colours (rule 5.8) is optional at Advanced level
c) riding boots may be long or short, black or brown may also be the same colour as the coat. (hunting tops permitted in black or brown or as same colour as the boots)
d) all riders of horses and ponies must wear an approved safety helmet in a dark colour
e) gloves (white preferred, may be black or a dark colour to match the coat)
f) for shirts and neck wear see rule 5.7

Optional as defined below:

- spurs, whip, gaiters, monkey grip, back protector
- military personnel, police, etc, may wear service dress with a safety helmet

5.1.2 Prix St Georges to Grand Prix levels

Riders competing at Prix St Georges to Grand Prix are required to wear:

a) white or off-white breeches
b) a jacket or tail coat. Refer to rule 5.8 for permitted colours
c) long boots in black or same colour as coat
d) riders 26 years and over, an approved safety helmet or optional top hat in a dark colour only (riders age is from the beginning of the calendar year they turn 26)
e) riders 25 years and under an approved safety helmet in dark colour only
f) a stock or tie in white, off-white, pale colour, same colour as coat or a shade of the coat colour, colour trim is permitted
g) gloves, white or off white preferred may be same colour as coat
h) for shirts refer to rule 5.7 for more information

Optional as defined below:

- military personnel, police, etc, may wear service dress with safety helmet (may wear top hat or service hat 26 years and over
- spurs permitted as per rule 5.5
- whip, monkey grip, back protector

5.2 Headgear and helmets

In relation to helmets and other headwear:

a) any person mounted on a horse must wear an approved safety helmet with the retaining harness secured and fastened. Failure to have the harness fastened will entail elimination.
b) as an option, riders 26 years and over, riding Prix St Georges and above may wear a top hat (riders age is from the beginning of the calendar year they turn 26)

Protective headgear must conform with one of the current approved safety standards outlined below. The EA General Regulations at rule 122.2 prescribe the current standards. It is the responsibility of the rider to ensure they are using a current standard safety helmet.

c) current Australian standard AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards) provided they are SAI Global marked
d) new Australian standard ARB HS 2012 provided they are SAI Global marked
e) current American standards ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards) provided they are SEI marked, or SNELL E2001
f) current British standard PAS 015 (1998 or 2011) provided they are BSI Kitemarked
g) interim European Standard VG1 (01.040: 2014-12) with or without BSI Kitemark

BSI Kitemarked *SAI Global marked* *SEI marked*

5.2.1 All headgear should be secured when competing. However, if a rider's hat comes off during the test the C Judge must stop the test, so the rider can retrieve and replace the hat. The rider can have outside assistance to retrieve the hat. Once the hat has been replaced the test and judging recommences from where it was stopped.

5.2.2 Any type of camera **may not be attached to a helmet or anywhere on the rider, saddle or horse**

5.3 Footwear

In regards to a rider's footwear:

a) all riders must wear riding boots as specified in the table below, when mounted
b) all boots must have smooth soles or only light tread and heels for safety reasons
c) heavily indented treads are not permitted for safety and risk management reasons
d) unsafe boots will entail elimination
e) the exposed side of long boots must be smooth, a discrete zipper on the outside is permitted
f) all boots must be a single colour, with the exception of top boots or gaiters with a hunting top
g) decorative features on top boots or gaiters are permitted only on the top edge of boots or hunting tops providing it is the same colour as the boot or of a colour in line with FEI HSV colour scale to
h) match the jacket

5.3.1 Footwear table

Boots (heavily indented soles not permitted)	**Prelim – Adv**	**FEI**
Short boots (black, brown or same colour as coat)	✓	X
Short boots with matching coloured gaiters	✓	X
Long boots with hunting tops in black or brown or same colour as boots.	✓	✓
Long black boots (Top boots)	✓	✓
Long riding boots same colour as the coat	✓	✓

5.4 Gaiters/Chapettes

Riders please note:

a) gaiters may be worn up to and including Advanced (Including YH events) when informal dress is worn (refer to table in rule 5.19)
b) gaiters may only be worn with short boots which have heels
c) the exposed side of the gaiter must be full grain leather
d) the gaiters must match the colour of the boots, which must be black, brown or same colour as the coat
e) gaiters may have hunting tops but only in brown, black or same colour as the boots
f) suede on the exposed side of the gaiter is not permitted

5.5 Spurs

Riders please note:

a) spurs may be worn by all competitors
b) spurs must be identical on both sides, i.e. they must be a pair
c) spurs must be made of metal or hard plastic
d) a curved or straight shank must point directly back from the centre of the spur when on the rider's boot; rowels also must point directly back from the centre of the spur
e) the **tip** of the shank must not point up or point inwards. Swan neck spurs are permitted
f) the arms of the spur must be smooth
g) if rowels are used, they must be blunt/smooth and free to rotate. Daisy rowels are permitted
h) rowels must be in a vertical plane
i) rowels in a horizontal plane are not permitted
j) soft touch spurs with a rolling ball on either plane are permitted
k) pony riders, (regardless of age), may only wear spurs that are no longer than 4.0 cm. The length of the spur is measured from the boot to the tip of the spur
l) there is no maximum length of spurs for riders of horses
m) metal spurs with hard plastic knobs are permitted
n) dummy spurs with no shank are permitted
o) Impuls spurs are permitted
p) non-compliance or incorrect spurs will entail elimination

For further information regarding spurs, please see the current Dressage equipment on the EA website (http://www.equestrian.org.au/dressage-rules)

5.6 Whips

In relation to the carrying and using of whips:

a) riders of horses may carry a whip up to 1.20m (120cm)
b) riders of ponies may carry a whip up to 1.00m (100cm)
c) the tassel is included when measuring the length of a whip
d) for any horse/pony one whip, as specified above, may be carried and used
   - in the exercise and warm-up areas
   - in all tests up to and including Advanced level at all events including championships
   - by a rider anywhere on the ground when riding or leading a horse/pony
   - by other parties, providing that it is not used in connection with training a horse/pony

e) whips are not to be carried at:
   - FEI-level tests at all State and Australian Championships (including National Youth championships and Australian Pony Championships)
   - for Young Horse competitions refer to rule 9.1

f) a lunging whip is permitted when lunging a horse or pony

g) incorrect length or use of whip will entail elimination (as per annex E)

In FEI-level competitions at Australian and any State Championships a rider:

- circling the arena carrying a whip will incur a penalty of 2 points from each judge
- entering the dressage arena with a whip will incur a penalty of 2 points from each judge (this is not an error of course)
- carrying a whip in a test for more than 3 movements will entail elimination.

5.7 Shirts and neck wear

In regards to wearing of shirts and stocks/ties:

a) the shirt should be tucked in. Collar and parts visible when wearing a jacket should be white or cream or a pale colour. Colours and patterns on body and sleeves of shirt are permitted

b) the collar must be either a ratcatcher or business-style collar – if the latter then a tie must be worn

c) the shirt may be long sleeved, short sleeved, capped sleeve or sleeveless

d) a waistcoat may be worn

e) stocks should be white, off white or same colour as coat, or pale colour, piping trim is permitted

5.8 Jackets and coats

In regards to the colour and style of jackets and coats for competition:

a) from Preliminary to Advanced levels (informal), a jacket or coat must be short, may be double breasted. Cutaway coats/mini tails are permitted providing they are cut straight across the back

b) tweed short coats are acceptable

c) for Advanced and all FEI levels, a tail coat is optional. Jackets are permitted

d) the colour of the jacket or coat should be a dark colour having a brightness value of less than 32% on the international HSV colour scale. Refer to the FEI website for Colour Chart http://www.fei.org/fei/disc/dressage/useful-docs

e) bright colours such as red, orange, pink, yelloe, lime green, purple and wide contrast stripes and multi-coloured jackets and coats are not permitted

f) accents such as piping and matching colour sections on collars and/or pocket flaps of a different colour to the coat are permitted

g) tailcoats may be worn with snaffle

h) wearing a coat is optional in hot weather conditions

i) waistcoats and fitted vests are permitted with jackets and coats or when jackets and coats are not worn in hot weather

j) back protectors may be worn under or over the jacket or coat

k) rain jackets, either clear or similar colour to the coat may be worn over the coat in wet weather

5.9 Pocket badges

Pocket badges are only issued to riders for specific occasions. On most occasions only one pocket badge should be worn at competitions. A rider may have a second badge when riding as a representative. Once a rider has represented Australia at a World Championships or an Olympic Games they may wear the Australian flag pocket badge at all times. Information about the dimensions of the badge can be found in the EA General Regulations, *Article* 135.

5.10 Saddles and saddlecloths

In regards to permitted saddles and saddle cloths:

a) a fully-mounted dressage-type saddle (including all-purpose) of traditional or treeless construction is compulsory and may be used with or without a saddlecloth
b) all parts of the saddle to be black or brown only. Coloured piping on the seat of the saddle permitted
c) Western saddles are not permitted and will entail elimination
d) any saddle that does not meet the required criteria will entail elimination
e) a crupper may be worn by ponies
f) saddlecloths may be square or shaped. White is preferred but conservative colours permitted
g) refer to the EA General Regulations for information on flags and sponsor logos on saddlecloths

5.10.1 Stirrups

In regards to stirrups:

a) safety stirrups and enhancements, including toe stoppers, are permitted
b) lock in stirrups, stirrup tie downs and magnetised stirrups are not permitted

5.11 Bridles, nosebands and bits

In regard to permitted bridles:

a) bridles must be black or brown.
b) except for the buckles and padding the headstall and noseband, must be made entirely of leather or leather-like material. Nylon or other non-metal material may be used to reinforce leather in the headstall but must not be in direct contact with the horse. Elastic inserts are permitted in the crownpiece and cheek pieces only and must not be in direct contact with the horse or the bit
c) padding is permitted under bridles, but any padding used must be discreet and applied to the underside of the bridle only
d) a browband is required, and except for the parts that attach to the crownpiece or headstall is not required to be made of leather or leather-like material
e) the crownpiece of the bridle must lie immediately behind the poll and may extend forward onto the poll but must not be fitted to lie behind the skull
f) a throatlatch is required except when the combined noseband or Micklem bridle are used
g) the reins of a bridle must be black or brown. A rein is a continuous, uninterrupted strap or line from the bridle bit to the hand
h) each bit must be attached to a separate rein and reins may only be attached to the bit
i) the reins can be made of leather, cotton, synthetic or a mix of these materials, Reins must not be made of rope or rope-like material
j) rein additions or are not permitted and there must be no attachments, elastic inserts, loops or otherwise along the length of the rein
k) bitless bridles are not permitted

5.11.1 Nosebands - In regard to nosebands:

a) a noseband is compulsory
b) the wearing of two nosebands at an event is not permitted and will entail elimination
c) the wearing of non-approved nosebands will entail elimination
d) nosebands may never be so tightly fixed as to harm the horse. Officials should not loosen the noseband but request the rider to do so. If the rider refuses and the official thinks the noseband is still too tight; the Ground Jury should be approached to make a ruling
e) padding under the noseband is permitted as long as it is securely attached

5.11.2 Bits - In regard to all bits:

The use of non-approved bit/s or incorrect thickness of bit/s will entail elimination

a) bits must be smooth with a solid surface, all parts going into the horse's mouth shall be rounded, and not ridged, sharp or corrugated
b) twisted and wire bits are prohibited
c) bits must be made of metal, rigid plastic, or durable synthetic material and may be covered with rubber or latex
d) bits must not place mechanical restraint upon the tongue
e) the diameter of the mouthpiece must be such so as not to hurt the horse
f) the diameter of the mouthpiece is measured adjacent to the rings or the cheeks of the mouthpiece
g) mouthpieces may be the same thickness or tapered towards the centre or central joints
h) wrapping of bit with any kind of material is not permitted

5.11.3 Snaffle bridle

A snaffle bridle is an English-type bridle with a single snaffle-type bit and one set of reins

a) a snaffle bridle is compulsory in all tests up to and including Elementary level
b) a snaffle bridle is optional at Medium level, Advanced and all FEI-level competitions
c) one-eared bridles are not permitted under penalty of elimination

5.11.3.1 Nosebands for snaffle bridles

It is compulsory to have one (only) of the following nosebands on a snaffle bridle:

a) dropped noseband (see Illustration 1)
b) cavesson noseband (see Illustration 2)
c) flash (or Hanoverian) noseband (see Illustration 3)
d) crossed (Grackle or Mexican noseband (not permitted in Young Horse competitions) (see Illustration 4)

See 5.21 for illustrations of permitted nosebands

5.11.3.2 Snaffle Bits

The use of non-approved bit/s or incorrect thickness of bit/s will entail elimination.

Only snaffle bits that have the following features are approved for use in dressage:

a) the minimum diameter of the mouthpiece is 10mm for ponies and 14mm for horses. This includes Young Pony and Young Horse competitions
b) snaffle bits may be used with loose ring, D-Ring and eggbutt cheeks. Single or double jointed snaffles may also be used with upper or lower cheeks, hanging cheeks, full cheeks or Fulmer cheeks
c) a snaffle may have up to two joints. A bushing or coupling is permitted as the centre link in a double-jointed snaffle, however, the surface of the centre piece must be solid with no moveable parts other than a roller. The centre link may be tilted in a different orientation from the mouthpiece but must have rounded edges and may not have the effect of a tongue plate
d) a double-jointed snaffle or snaffle with rotating mouthpiece may be shaped to allow tongue relief. The maximum height of the deviation is 30mm from the lower part of tongue side to the highest part of the deviation. The widest part of the deviation must be where the mouthpiece contacts the tongue and must have a minimum width of 30mm. The mouthpiece of a jointed or unjointed snaffle may be shaped in a curve within the dimensions specified above
e) hanging cheeks (Baucher-type) are permitted but only when combined with a mouthpiece with a single or double joint
f) forward curved bits are permitted but not with hanging cheeks and they must have a joint (i.e. centrepiece must move) and can have fixed or loose ring

Keeping within the definition above, some of the types of bits permitted are described and illustrated at the end of this section in rule 5.20. Also permitted but not illustrated:

g) half-moon — port-mouth — curved
h) rubber or synthetic bits covering metal (but not chain) – both jointed and unjointed
i) sweet iron bit

5.11.4 Double bridle

a) a double bridle is an English-type bridle with a bridoon (snaffle) bit and a curb bit and curb chain (made of metal or leather or a combination). Both bits have a set of reins attached
b) a double bridle with a pelham bit is not permitted in any dressage test. If metal bits are used, all parts of the bit going into the horse's mouth must be of metal (not necessarily the same metal)
c) a double bridle may be worn in the warm up for tests where a double bridle is permitted. i.e. Medium tests and above and 7yo Young Horse tests

5.11.4.1 Bridoon

A bridoon is defined as a snaffle bit that is used together with a curb bit to form a double bridle.

In addition to rule 5.11- Bits, the bridoon bit of a double bridle must also comply with the following:

a) flexible rubber or synthetic bits or those made of rubber or rubber and chain are not permitted
b) bridoons may be have loose ring, D-ring or eggbutt cheeks
c) the diameter of the mouthpiece must be such so as not to hurt the horse, the minimum diameter of the mouthpiece is 10mm diameter
d) must have one or two joints. A bushing or coupling is permitted as the centre link in a double jointed bridoon, however, the surface of the centre piece must be solid with no moveable parts other than a roller. The centre link may not have the effect of a tongue plate
e) bridoons where the centre link(s) of the bit can lock and have the effect of a mullen mouth snaffle are not permitted
f) multiple 'rollers' are not permitted

5.11.4.2 Curb

The curb bits of the double bridle must comply with the following:

a) the curb must be made of metal, rigid plastic or durable synthetic material and may be covered with rubber/latex (manufactured state)
b) must be smooth with a solid surface, all parts going into the horse's mouth shall be rounded and not ridged, sharp or corrugated
c) twisted and wire bits are prohibited
d) flexible rubber or synthetic bits or those made of-rubber or rubber and chain are not permitted
e) the mouthpiece may be straight or shaped to allow tongue relief. The maximum height of the deviation is 30mm from the lower part of tongue side to the highest part of the deviation. The widest part of the deviation must be where the mouthpiece contacts the tongue and must have a minimum width of 30mm
f) the upper cheek must not be longer than the lower cheek
g) curbs may have straight or S-shaped cheeks. They may have rotating lever arms
h) the curb 'chain' can be made of metal, leather or a combination. The cover for curb chain' can be made of leather, rubber or sheepskin. Curb chain hooks may be fixed or not fixed
i) the curb chain must be correctly fitted (must lie flat against the horse's chin). Curb chains may never be so tightly fixed as to harm the horse
j) the minimum diameter of the mouthpiece is 12mm

k) the lever arm of the curb bit (length below the mouth piece) is limited to 10 cm
l) if the curb has a sliding mouthpiece, the lever arm of the curb bit below the mouth piece should not measure more than 10 cm when the mouth piece is at the uppermost position

5.11.4.3 Double bridle noseband

a) a cavesson noseband is compulsory with a double bridle under penalty of elimination
b) refer to 5.21 diagram 5, when used as a double bridle, the lower strap of the nose band is not permitted

5.11.4.4 Optional Items for double bridles (not compulsory)

a) lip strap (see Illustration 12)
b) leather cover for curb chain (see Illustration 13)
c) rubber cover for curb chain (see Illustration 14)

5.12 Table of equipment permitted/not permitted

Details of equipment	Permitted in competition	Permitted in warm-up & exercise areas but NOT past Gear Steward & NOT in competition	NOT permitted at an event or venue The wearing of any of the following at an event will entail elimination
Any equipment which the Ground Jury, TD or Chief Steward may determine is against the intent and general principles of dressage			X
Balancing reins (e.g. chambon, deGogue)			X
Bearing reins (e.g. chambon, deGogue)			X
Bit guards (leather/rubber circular gadgets that stop the bit pulling through)			X
Bitless bridles e.g. hackmores			X
Blinkers, any form			X
Boots, bell boots and bandages Penalties are cumulative		• -2 pts from each judge if worn in the space around the arena • -2 pts from each judge if worn in the	
Breastplates	Up to and incl Medium with a snaffle bridle		
Crystal mane bands			X
Snaffle Bridle	All levels	All levels	
Double bridle	Med & above & 7yo Young Horse competitions	Med & above & 7yo Young Horse competitions	
Ear plugs	Permitted in presentations only		
False tail/tail extensions - no metal or added extra weight – penalty of elimination For FEI-sanctioned events refer to FEI rules Article 428.4	All levels – no metal or added extra weight or elimination		
Foregirths	All levels		
Grass reins			X
Headphones or similar devices		X	
Mane and/or tail decoration of the horse with items such as ribbons, flowers in the tail, etc, is strictly forbidden, apart from a red ribbon in the tail to indicate a horse that kicks			X
Monkey grip	All levels		
Nasal strips			X
Neck straps	All levels for safety purposes only		
Removable over-boots (e.g. Easy Boot/Mac Boot/Hoof Boot, Scoot Boot)		X	
Running martingales		with a snaffle bridle	
Running reins (e.g. chambon, deGogue)			X
Saddles – coloured piping	Yes		
Saddle covers (e.g. sheepskin or rain covers, etc)		X	
Stirrups – lock in, tie downs, magnetised			X
Tongue ties			X

• Whip (1 only) • Horses 1.2 m in length • Ponies 1 m in length • Refer to rule 5.6 for exceptions • Penalties are cumulative	All levels subject to conditions of the event	**In FEI level competitions at Australian and State Championships** • -2 per judge if carried circling arena in events where not permitted • -2 per judge if carried in the arena- elimination if carried in test for more than 3 movements

5.13 Lunging equipment

When lunging a horse or pony the following equipment rules apply:

a) lunging cavessons are permitted
b) only one lunge rein may be used (more than one lunge rein and long reining not permitted)
c) snaffles with a cavesson or a normal dropped noseband, Mexican noseband or a Flash noseband, running martingales (with snaffle only), boots and bandages are permitted
d) double bridles are permitted but the lunge line or side reins are not permitted to be attached to the curb bit
e) horses must be attached to a lunge line and be wearing a bit or lunging cavesson when being lunged at an event
f) the lunging of a rider mounted in the saddle is not permitted anywhere at the event
g) ear hoods are permitted
h) a lunging whip is permitted when lunging a horse or pony

5.14 Ear hoods

Ear hoods are permitted to be worn under the following conditions:

a) the ear hood must not cover the horse's eyes
b) the ear hood may be made of material which provides for sound reduction
c) ear hoods may not be attached to the noseband
d) the OC/TD/Gear Steward may, after completion of the test, request the removal of any ear hood to verify that no additional insulation from manufactured state has been inserted in the ear hood and that ear plugs have not been inserted

5.15 Nose nets

Nose nets are only permitted to be used in competitions and warm-up on written approval by the EADC. Permission will be given on a case-by-case basis and the following will apply:

a) applications, with a supporting letter from a veterinarian, are to be sent to the EADC
b) registration details and name of the horse must appear in the application and also the veterinary certificate
c) if approved, the rider of the horse with the nose net must send in a copy of the approval letter from the EADC with entries
d) a copy of the approval letter will be sent to the relevant SDA for their records
e) the rider must also produce a copy of the approval letter from EADC on request to a gear checker, steward or judge at the event
f) it is also recommended that OCs place a copy on the judges' sheets and advise all stewards
g) the nose net must be made of transparent material as per the example in rule 5.23
h) the nose net must not cover the mouth or bit

5.16 Over-boots/Hoof boots

In regards to horse wearing shoes or hoof coverings:

a) it is not mandatory for horses to be shod
b) removable over-boots/hoof boots are permitted in the warm-up area but NOT permitted past the gear check or into the competition surrounds or arena
c) glued-on shoes cannot cover any more of the hoof than does a nailed shoe, and the bulbs of the heel and full circumference of coronary band must be clearly visible

5.17 Protective coverings/ Boots/ Bandages

The following applies to any coverings of parts of the horse

a) boots and/or bandages are permitted in warm-up but are not permitted in the competition arena Penalties are outlined in rule 5.12
b) any form of protective skin covering on the horse such as plaster/tape/belly band covering or towel, whether the skin is broken or not, is strictly forbidden at an event when the horse is under saddle during training, warm-up and competition and will entail elimination

5.18 Exemption Cards and riders with a disability

In order that riders with a disability may compete on equal terms, an Exemption scheme has been established by EA.

The scheme provides for exemption to EA Dressage Rules for riders who:

a) are members of Equestrian Australia
b) have an identified diagnosed disability supported by medical documentation but who are not eligible for Para-Equestrian classification
c) would be eligible for Para-Equestrian classification but do not wish to be classified for PE competition

Application for Exemption forms are available from EA at
http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/Exemption%20Application%20Form.pdf
Once received, each application will be considered by the EA Exemption Committee comprising:

- an accredited EA Para-Equestrian Classifier
- an A level dressage judge with a knowledge of judging riders with a disability
- an EA qualified coach with experience with riders with a disability

Upon approval by the Committee the rider will be issued with an EA Exemption Card for use in dressage competitions run under EA National Rules only. Exemption cards for compensatory aids will not apply to Young Horse competitions. Test calling in young Horse competitions will be permitted for riders with the appropriate exemption card.

The Exemption Card will list the exemptions/special equipment permitted and a 'Valid to' date up to a maximum of four years. A copy of the Exemption Card must be provided to the OC at the time of entry and should be carried by the rider throughout the Competition. Para-Equestrian riders please refer to Section 10 for further information.

5.19 Gear Check check list

Please check the equipment page on the EA website for the latest updates to approved/not approved dress and gear at www.equestrian.org.au/sport/dressage/equipment.

Please read carefully		Preliminary to Advanced	FEI tests at EA events*
Headgear training/practice	Approved safety helmet	Compulsory	Compulsory
Headgear final warm-up and competition	Approved safety helmet for riders 25 years and under riding horse or pony of any age	Compulsory	Compulsory
	Top hat rider over 26years	X	Optional
Jacket/Coat Refer to rule 5.1 and 5.8	General	To be in dark colour range – HSV blue, green, black, grey, brown. Tweed coats permitted. Bright colours such as pink, red, orange, yellow, lime green, purple and wide contrast stripes and multi coloured coats not permitted	
	Short coat/jacket	✓	✓
	Tail coat –colour asper rule 5.1.4	X Optional at Advanced level	✓
	Cutaway coat /mini tails are permitted providing they are cut straight across the back.	✓	✓
Jodphurs or breeches	Jodphurs	✓	X
	Breeches	White, off-white, beige or light canary	✓ White or off-white
Shirt	Refer to rule 5.7	Tucked in when not wearing a coat. Can be long sleeved, short sleeved, capped sleeve or sleeveless. Collar can be ratcatcher or business style – if latter tie must be worn. Collar and parts visible when wearing a jacket should be white or cream or a pale colour. Colours and patterns on body and sleeves of shirt are permitted	
Tie, stock or ratcatcher	Tie	✓	✓
	Stock	White, off-white, pale colour or same colour as coat. Piping trim is permitted.	
	Ratcatcher	✓	✓
Waistcoat		✓	✓
Gloves		Compulsory at all levels, white preferred or a dark colour to match coat	
Boots	Short, black or brown	✓	X
	Top boots	black/brown or same colour as coat (hunting tops permitted)	black or same colour as coat

Please read carefully		Preliminary to Advanced		FEI tests at EA events*
Gaiters	Black or brown or to match boots. Exposed side must be full grain leather.	✓		X
Spurs		Optional		Optional
	• Must be smooth metal. Shank must point directly back from centre of spur when on the boot • Must be a pair • **Tip** of shank must not point up or inward. Soft touch spurs with rolling ball on either vertical or horizontal plane	Rowels must be blunt/smooth and rotate freely. Daisy rowels permitted. Metal spurs with plastic knobs, 'swan-neck' spurs and dummy spurs (no shank) permitted. **Pony riders,** regardless of age, may only wear spurs no longer than 4 cm. Length of the spur is measured from the boot to the tip of the spur.		
Whip	Max length 1.2m horses and 1.0m ponies	✓		✓ except in State/Aus Champs
Saddle	Dressage (including all-purpose), must be fully-mounted, used with or without a saddlecloth.			
Monkey grip		✓		✓
Horse Identification Numbers	One on each side of the bridle or saddlecloth is required and must be clearly visible. Should be worn whenever the horse is out of the stable including leading, grazing, under saddle at any time			
Bridle, black or brown only	Padding is permitted under bridles and must be discreet and applied to the underside of the bridle only.			
	Snaffle	✓		optional
	Bit and bridoon (Double),	not permitted Preliminary to Elementary	optional Medium and above	optional
Nosebands, black or brown only	Cavesson, Dropped Flash, Crossed (not for YH)	One (only) Compulsory see Section 5, rule 5.11.1.1. Only Cavesson permitted with double.		One (only) Compulsory see Section 5, rule 5.11.4.3. Only Cavesson permitted with double
False tails	Permitted, but must not contain any metal parts (except for hooks and eyelets) or added weight	✓		FEI permission for CDIs

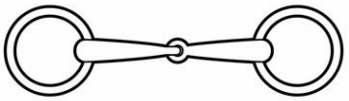
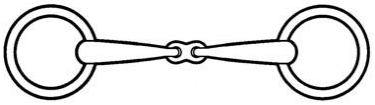
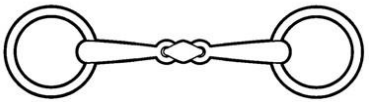
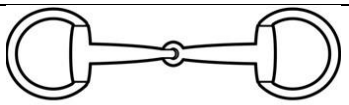
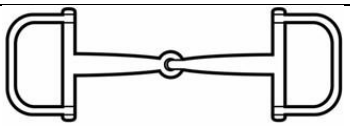
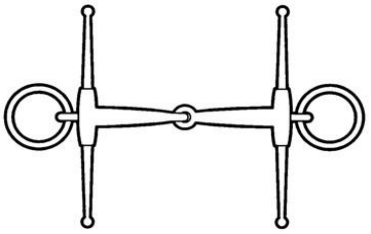
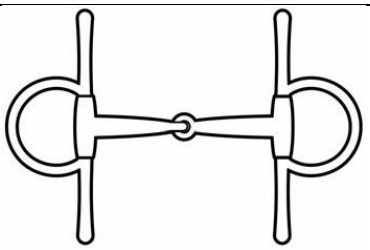
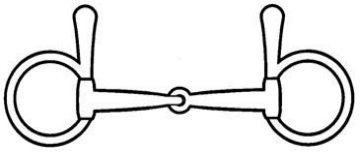
Please read carefully		Preliminary to Advanced	FEI tests at EA events*
Additional gear	Breastplate	only with snaffle and only up to and including Medium level	X
	Foregirth	✓	✓
	Crupper	Permitted only for Ponies (but not in YH)	
	Running martingale, bandages, brushing boots, over-boots, double bridle (all levels), saddle covers, headphones	Warm-up area only	
	Side reins and lunge cavesson	Lunging only	
	Blinkers, ear plugs, nasal strips, bearing/ running/balancing reins, cheekers /bit guards, chambon/deGogue	Not permitted at all anywhere with the exception that ear plugs may be worn during prize giving.	
	Ear hoods	Permitted to be worn. May be checked by Gear Steward after their test, the rider **must** remove the ear hood for checking if requested.	
	Nose nets – Refer to 2.15 for details	Only permitted with EADC approval and evidence to be produced at gear check.	
	Back protectors	Permitted all levels	
Sponsor pocket badges Refer to EA General Regs *Article* 135	Max 80 cm^2, only breast height	✓	✓
Sponsor saddlecloth badges Refer to EA General Regs *Article* 135	Max 200 cm^2 on each side	✓	✓
Bits: Refer to Section 5 for descriptions and illustrations			

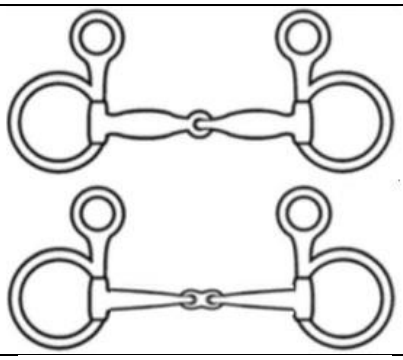
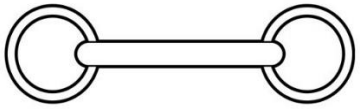
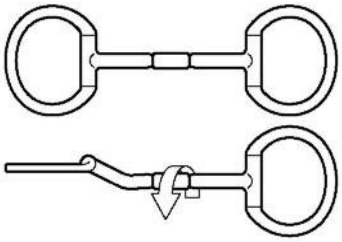
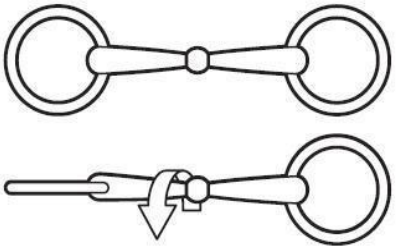
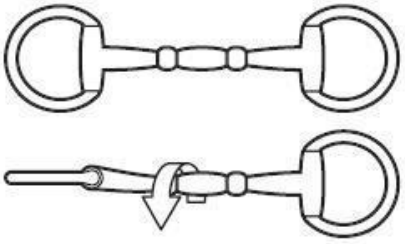
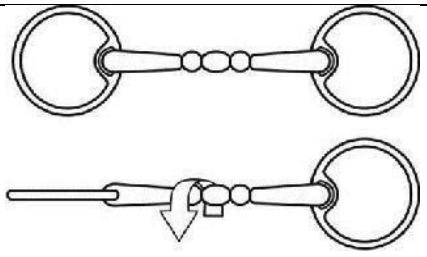
* For FEI events (CDI3*, CDI-W, CDI-Y, CDI-P, etc), dress and saddlery will be as per FEI rules (see www.fei.org)

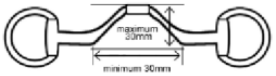
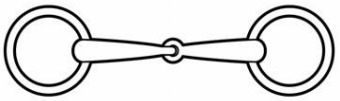
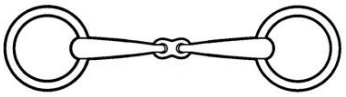
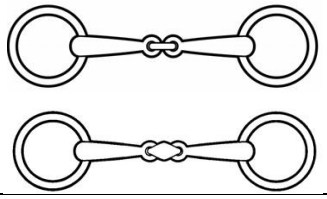
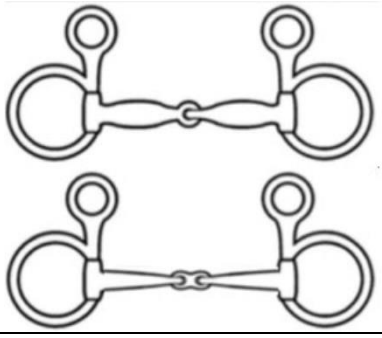
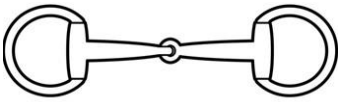
Example of permitted dressage saddle

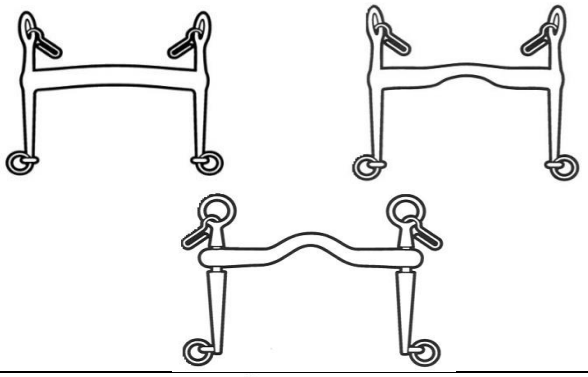
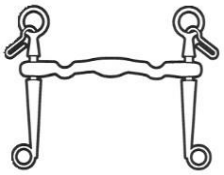
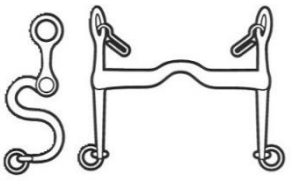
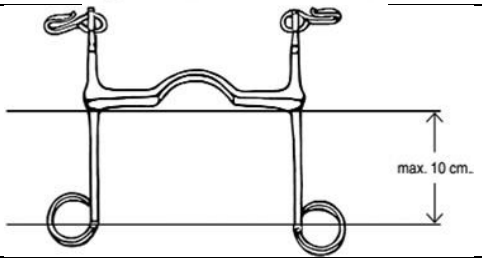
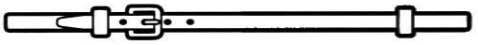
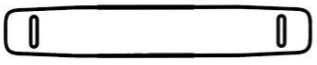
5.20 Permitted bits

Refer to EA equipment annex for illustration of permitted bits - http://www.equestrian.org.au

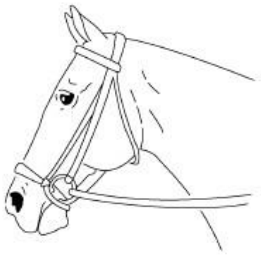
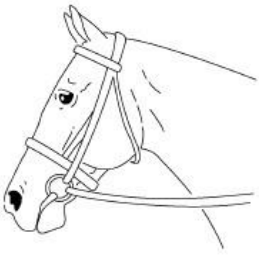
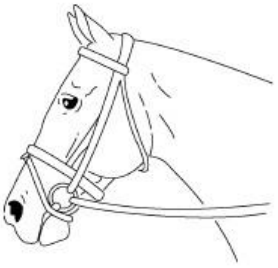
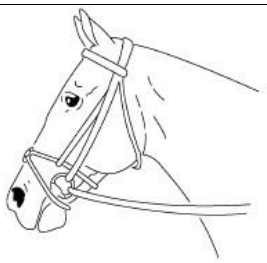
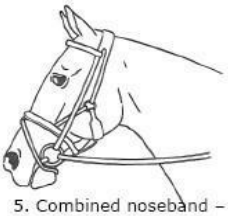
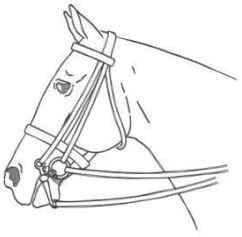
1. Loose ring snaffle	
2. Snaffle with jointed mouthpiece where middle piece must be rounded. Egg butt sides also permitted	
3. Snaffle with jointed mouthpiece where middle piece must be rounded. Egg butt sides also permitted	
4. Snaffle with jointed mouthpiece where middle piece must be rounded. Egg butt sides also permitted.	
5. Egg butt snaffle	
6. Racing snaffle (D ring)	
7. Loose- ring snaffle with cheeks (fulmer) (keepers permitted)	
8. Egg- but snaffle with cheeks (keepers permitted)	
9. Snaffle with upper cheeks only	

10. Hanging cheek snaffle (single or double joint only)	
11. Straight bar snaffle. Permitted also with mullen mouth and with egg butt rings	
12. Snaffle with rotating mouthpiece	
13. Snaffle with rotating middle piece	
14. Rotary bits single jointed	
15. Rotary bits double jointed	
16. Rotary bit with rotating middle piece and lopped rings	

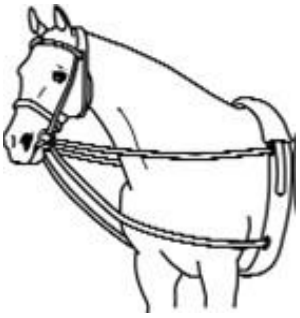
Measurement for deviation to allow tongue relief in snaffle with rotating mouthpiece	
Double bridles bits - bridoons	
17. Loose-ring bridoon bit	
18. Loose-ring bridoon bit with jointed mouthpiece where the middle piece is rounded	
19. Loose-ring bridoon bits with jointed mouthpieces where the middle piece is rounded	
20. Bridoon bit with rotating middle piece	
21.Bridoon bit with hanging cheeks (single and double joint only)	
22. Egg-butt bridoon bit	

Curbs (curb chain hooks may be fixed)	
23. Half-moon curb bit (top left) Half-moon curb bit with straight cheeks and port (top right and bottom) Curb bit with port and sliding mouthpiece (Weymouth). A curb bit with rotating lever arm also permitted (bottom)	
24.Variation of the two sets of bits above	
25.Curb bit with S-curved cheeks	
26.Length of lever arm is limited to 10cm	
27.Lip strap	
28.Leather cover for curb chain	
29.Rubber or sheepskin cover for curb chain	
30.Curb chain (metal, leather or combination) – refer to rule 5.11.2	

5.21 Permitted nosebands

1. Dropped noseband	
2. Cavesson noseband	
3. Flash noseband (Hanoverian)	
4. Crossed noseband (Grackle or Mexican)	
5. Combined noseband – no throat lash. When 5 is used as a double bridle, the lower strap of the noseband is not permitted 6. Micklem bridle	 5. Combined noseband – no throat lash 6. Micklem bridle
Double bridle with cavesson noseband, bridoon bit and curb with curb chain 1, 3, 4 or 6 are not permitted when a double bridle is used	

5.22 Lunging gear



5.23 Nose net – refer to rule 5.15

SECTION 6 – ROLE OF OFFICIALS

All situations cannot be foreseen and in any exceptional circumstances it is the duty of the Ground Jury or the appropriate official(s) to make a decision **in a sporting spirit** adhering as closely as possible to the intent of these rules. All officials must abide by the *Equestrian Australian Code of Conduct for Officials*. Any official is authorised to:

- intervene in order to prevent any abuse of horses by riders, grooms, owners or any other person
- intervene in order to prevent any contravention of the common principles of behaviour, fairness and accepted standards of sportsmanship

6.1 Ground Jury

The Ground Jury consists of the judges of the event.

The Ground Jury:

a) must be drawn from the current list
b) may include suitably accredited visiting overseas judges

The President of the Ground Jury should be the judge positioned at C for the highest-level competition during the event.

6.1.1 The Ground Jury is responsible for:

a) the technical judging of all individual and team competitions
b) the allocation and verification of final placings in a competition
c) settling all problems that may arise during the course of the event
d) referring any case which is beyond its jurisdiction to the Appeal Committee
e) referring any case within its jurisdiction but which it considers deserving of penalties not in the jurisdiction of the Ground Jury to the Appeal Committee
f) referring to the Appeal Committee any matter not requiring an immediate decision for the purpose of judging the competition

Other tasks of the Ground Jury include:

g) at the completion of judging the Chief Judge/TD/person authorised by the OC of a competition must, prior to the formal posting of placings, be given the original of the score sheet which has to include riders' and horses' names, individual judge's marks, overall total, percentage and provisional placing
h) the Chief Judge/TD/person authorised by OC should quickly scan the document and when satisfied, sign and show the time of official posting of placings
i) all members of a Ground Jury must remain at the event for at least 30 minutes after the official placings have been posted for the competitions they have judged
j) the members of the Ground Jury must not take into account any unofficial advice or observations from persons who are not members of the Ground Jury, or anything they know beforehand of the competitors or their horses
k) at events where a TD/Chief Steward has not been appointed it is recommended
l) that the OC nominate an official to assist with any technicalities that may arise

6.2 Appeal Committee

An Appeal Committee consists of a president and 2 to 4 other persons and must be appointed for Australian and State Championships. It is responsible for:

a) dealing with protests referred to it
b) dealing with appeals against decisions of the Ground Jury
c) dealing with all cases of infringements of any rules for which the Ground Jury is not responsible
d) inviting any person deemed necessary to help them reach a decision
e) at least one judge from the competition in which the incident occurred must be consulted

The following may ***not*** serve as a member of the Appeal Committee:

f) owners of horses entered in the competition pertaining to the protest
g) judges of the competition pertaining to the protest
h) coaches of competitors entered in the event
i) competitors entered in the event
j) close relatives of those listed above
k) Chefs d'Equipe or other officials of teams entered in the event
l) the Technical Delegate
m) any person with a conflict of interest

The decision of the Appeal Committee is final. Refer also to EA General Regulations Articles 150 and 160 and FEI Article (rule) 438.

6.3 Technical Delegate (TD)

A TD must be appointed for all major events including Australian Championships, State Championships and Regional Championships and is highly recommended for all Official Competitive and Participation events held at club level. Travel, accommodation and out-of-pocket expenses will be the responsibility of the OC.

A TD must be appointed by:

a) the EADC for all Australian Championships including Youth, Young Horse and Pony
b) the SDA for all State Championships including Youth, Young Horse and Pony
c) a TD is recommended to be appointed by the OC for Regional Championships and club Official events

In relation to the appointment by the EADC, OCs must submit suggested TD names by 31st August each year for the following year's events.

6.3.1 The TD is responsible for:

a) approval of all administrative arrangements for the event from the time of appointment (no later than 6 weeks prior to the start of the event) to the end of the event
b) inspection of the grounds and arenas and be satisfied that the technical details are in accordance with the rules
c) assisting the Ground Jury to supervise the technical conduct of the event after indicating to the
d) President of the Ground Jury, when approached, that the arrangements are satisfactory
e) instructing the OC to make any alterations to the arena or to any technical detail associated with the conduct of the event as is considered necessary in a timely manner
f) approving the final results in instances where the President of the Ground Jury or the Chief Judge are not available
g) furnishing a report within 21 days after the completion of the event as follows:
    - for Australian Championships, send a copy to the EADC with a copy to the Event Director
    - for State Championships send a copy to the SDA and Event Director
    - for any other event send a copy to the OC

6.4 Chef d'Equipe

Where State or Australian teams are entered, a Chef d'Equipe must be appointed. This is compulsory for Australian Championships, Youth Championships, Pony Championships and State Championships.

The Chef d'Equipe is not permitted to fulfil any other official's role. Only the Chef d'Equipe may lodge a protest on behalf of the team or a team member.

The Chef d'Equipe is responsible for:

a) managing the selected team of riders representing their state or nation
b) confirming stabling, accommodation and travel arrangements of riders
c) managing the communication with the travelling squad prior to arrival at the competition venue
d) arranging a meeting of squad members to inform them of the Chef's responsibilities distributing the team uniform if applicable
e) attending Chef d'Equipe meetings before and during the event, and conveying relevant information to riders and their appropriate coaches
f) declaring details of the team in writing to the OC within the prescribed timeframe
g) collection and return of Freestyle CDs (or tapes)
h) ensuring the riders are aware of any changes in the official draw and anticipated delays in competition arenas
i) providing a written report within 21 days to the EADC or SDA
j) all communication with the OC, including protests on behalf of the team

6.5 Stewards

A steward is a trained, accredited EA or FEI official.
Wherever possible an accredited Steward should be appointed to an event.

The following categories of accredited Stewards exist:

a) Steward General Australia Dressage
b) FEI Stewards (levels 1,2,3) - 3 is the highest level
c) Nationally accredited Stewards

The following additional categories of non-accredited assistants exist

d) national candidate stewards (in training, not yet qualified and hold no official responsibility, may carry out all steward duties under the supervision of an accredited steward, may work as a non-accredited gear checker)
e) non-accredited gear checkers may also be appointed to attend the gear check area at events to assist in the absence of an accredited steward or to assist the appointed steward at larger events. Non-accredited gear checkers hold no official capacity, will not make any decisions on their own nor interpret any rules on their own. They are fully reportable to an Accredited Steward if appointed or the Head of the Ground Jury if no accredited steward is appointed

6.5.1 Steward's Responsibilities

Stewards are responsible for ensuring the welfare of horses is upheld, that the rules and a fair playing field for the event are adhered to and that events are conducted safely.

At the Gear Check Area: A trained Steward is responsible for:

a) checking each competitor off the draw
b) check competition arenas set-up, safety, surface
c) communicate with the organising committee
d) guiding the rider on the legality of the saddlery, equipment and dress referred to in Section 5and the current equipment annex
e) checking the gear of each competitor for each test, either before the test or as specified in the schedule or on the notice board such as immediately after the tests is completed
f) if the bit/bridle is in question, in which case any inspection must be done immediately after the completion of the test
    - if this inspection requires the removal of the bridle, a head collar/halter must be made available for this purpose or the horse can be taken to a safer environment such as a stable
    - any removal of equipment must be done by the rider or their agent

g) ensuring that a competitor's gear check is completed to allow sufficient time for them to proceed to the competition arena and adhere to the time draw. If a problem arises during a gear check which may cause a delay, the competitor or their agent must be requested to re-present to the gear check immediately after their test concludes
h) consulting with the TD or, in their absence, a member of the Ground Jury the Chief Judge if doubt exists regarding any item of saddlery or other
i) having a 1.0m and a 1.2 m gauge accessible (e.g. tube, rod, tape measure, mark on fence) to ensure compliance of competitor's whip
j) using disposable surgical/protective gloves – one new pair for each horse – if inspecting the bridle (mouth area), checking the nose band, touching horse or spurs
k) every consideration must be given to not disturbing the harmony of the horse and rider prior to them entering the competition area
l) only the rider or their agent may alter any equipment the gear steward must not alter any gear. If gear is too tight, loose or incorrectly fitted, the rider or their agent must make the necessary adjustments
m) it remains the full responsibility of the rider to comply with the equipment rules as outlined
n) when an accredited steward has been appointed, if a rider does not have their gear checked they will incur elimination
o) it is the responsibility of the OC to provide preferably at least one accredited Steward for an event. A volunteer may attend the gear check if an accredited Steward is not available (see rule 6.5 e)
p) at club level if an accredited steward is appointed they should advise and supervise the volunteer gear checkers
q) supervise warm-up areas
r) ensure welfare of the horse is paramount
s) the issue of yellow warning cards where warranted
t) when an accredited steward has been appointed, if a rider does not have their gear checked they will incur elimination
u) it is the responsibility of the OC to provide preferably at least one accredited Steward for an event. A volunteer may attend the gear check if an accredited Steward is not available (see rule 6.5 e)
v) at club level if an accredited steward is appointed they should advise and supervise the volunteer gear checkers
w) supervise warm-up areas
x) ensure welfare of the horse is paramount
y) the issue of yellow warning cards where warranted

6.5.1.1 If an accredited steward is not appointed to an event a non-accredited gear checker may take on the following roles:

a) mark each competitor off the draw as presented to the gear check area
b) report to the head of the ground jury (C Judge) if a competitor does not present to the Gear Check area, as this will incur elimination
c) observing the gear of each competitor for each test, either before the test or as specified in the schedule or on the notice board
d) ensure that ~~a~~ competitor's leave the gear check area in sufficient time for them to proceed to the competition arena and adhere to the time draw. If a problem arises during a gear check which may cause a delay, the competitor or their agent must be requested to re-present to the gear check immediately after their test concludes
e) consulting with the TD or accredited Gear Steward, in their absence, the Chief Judge if doubt exist regarding any item if saddlery or other equipment
f) having a 1.0m and a 1.2m gauge accessible (e.g. tube, rod, tape measure, mark on fence) to ensure compliance of competitor's whip
g) every consideration must be given to not disturbing the harmony of the horse and rider prior to them entering the competition area

h) the gear checker must not alter any gear. If the gear is too tight, loose or incorrectly fitted, the rider or their agent must make the necessary adjustments Refer to Section 5 rule 5.12 for a table of allowable items of dress, saddlery and equipment
i) the gear checker must not touch the horse or rider unless under the supervision of an Accredited Steward

Refer to Section 5 rule 5.12 for a table of allowable items of dress, saddlery and equipment.

6.6 Chief Steward

A Chief Steward is to be appointed for all Australian Championships and State Championships and is highly recommended for Regional & Official Events. They are to be appointed from the current list of FEI accredited and Nationally accredited stewards. See rule 7.9 for payment of appointed Chief Stewards.

Where a TD is not appointed it is the Chief Steward who will undertake many of a TD's responsibilities.
In this role they are expected to supervise competition, training and warm-up areas, stables and other areas where horses are held, ridden or treated, as well as the field of play for competition. Refer further to rule 12.30 for fuller description of role.
A Chief Steward is authorised to undertake any of the following duties. However, this list is not exhaustive.

a) arrange for gate to grounds to be unlocked or open at least 1.5 hours before competitions begin
b) brief stewards on their duties
c) meet judges on arrival, introduce their writers and assign to respective arenas
d) ensure that test papers are being regularly collected from judges
e) ensure that scoresheets are updated
f) ensure that competitions are running to time
g) marshal winning competitors to receive awards
h) confirm the number of stewards required for running the event with the OC
i) prepare steward rosters as necessary
j) ensure that arenas are correctly set-up, that surfaces are safe and well maintained to the highest standard possible
k) manage stabling and warm-up areas
l) work with the OC to ensure the best possible outcomes for both competitors and horses

The Chief Steward is responsible for ensuring the welfare of horses is upheld, that the rules and a fair playing field for the event are adhered to and that the events are conducted safely. In this role they are expected to supervise competition, training and warm-up areas, stables and other areas where horses are held, ridden or treated, as well as the field of play for competitions.

Any official is authorised to:

m) intervene in order to prevent any abuse of horses by riders, grooms, owners or any other person
n) intervene in order to prevent any contravention of the common principals of behaviour, fairness and accepted standards of sportsmanship

6.7 FEI Steward

An FEI Steward is to be appointed for FEI-sanctioned events, such as CDIs. The FEI Steward for these events is to be appointed by the Dressage Steward General to ensure that all FEI Stewards are getting the opportunity to maintain their accreditation. OCs are to submit recommended names to the Dressage Steward General by the 31 August each year

SECTION 7 - RULES FOR JUDGES AND ORGANISINGCOMMITTEES (OCs)

The guide below summarises various rules and sections of the EA dressage rules. All judges and event organisers must have access to a current rule book.

Both the EA and FEI rule books state how an exercise should be performed. The FEI *Dressage Handbook – Guidelines for Judging* will assist all judges in determining the qualities required to award the various marks (0–10) for each exercise.

Judges have a responsibility for the future of the sport of dressage. Only by constant and consistent self-education in understanding the principles of dressage, by attending and participating at seminars and by analysing (and discussing if necessary) their own results of a competition can this be achieved.

As part of their responsibility to the sport, judges should keep in mind that elimination of competitors should be done in a sporting spirit, and that rider and spectator friendliness of the sport should be considered along with the spirit and intention of the rule(s) in question. For instance, elimination for matters not related to welfare or safety (e.g. incorrect saddlery) is best done at the end of the test.

Only current EA judges are eligible to officiate at Official Competitive and Participation events/competitions.

7.1 Positioning judges around the arena

Bearing in mind the need to fully observe all movements, the placement of judges around the arena should be as close as possible to the guide below:

Judge	Outdoor arena	Indoor arena
C	maximum 5m/minimum 3m back	preferably minimum 3m back
M H, K	maximum 5m/minimum 3 m back and 2.5 m in from long side	prefer minimum 3m back and 2.5m in from long side
E, B	maximum 5 m/minimum 3m back	prefer minimum 3m back

a) the positioning of judges allows different aspects of a movement to be obtained
b) if judges of a lower level are not yet confident, shadow judging at side positions should be encouraged to gain confidence
c) keep in mind the position of the sun when placing judges at E or B. Subsequently the judge on the long side should be allotted their position first
d) where 2 judges are used and the layout of the arena allows, 1 judge must sit at E or B
e) where 3 judges are used and the layout of the arena allows, 1 judge **must** sit on the long side diagonally opposite the M or H Judge on the short side

Number of Judges	Position on arena
1	positioned at C (Chief Judge)
2	second judge may be positioned at B, E, M or H
3	one judge must be placed at B or E when a judge is placed at H/M, a judge placed at E/B must be placed diagonally opposite the judge at M/H
5	positioned at C, M, B, E and H

7.2 Inspection of arenas

The judge/s must physically inspect the arena to ensure that:

a) the arena is of a satisfactory standard with a low continuous fence of about 0.3 m made of materials compliant with EA rules, and if necessary have it modified
b) the marker letters are the correct distance from the outside of the arena (about 0.5 m) and in the correct position
c) the letter A must be placed at least 10–15 m back from the entry
d) this marker must not be put to one side but must be centred to be in line with C

Once the competition has commenced, the conditions must remain (as much as possible) the same for all.

7.3 Scale of marks

Refer to rule 3.13

7.4 Execution of tests

Refer to rule 3.15

7.5 Errors of Course

Refer to rule 3.17

7.6 Allocation of marks and scoring

a) each judge must allot from 10–0 marks for each numbered movement
b) all half marks from 0.5 to 9.5 may also be used both for movements and collective marks, at the discretion of the judge – this also includes Freestyle competitions
c) in Young Horse competitions, and in the artistic marks for Freestyle competitions marks to a single decimal point may be used (e.g. trot 7.8)
d) these marks are then added together and any penalty marks are deducted
e) it is essential that penalty marks are deducted from each individual judge's score before it is totalled
f) total percentages to the 3rd decimal point for each judge must be clearly shown in results lists and on notice boards, together with the average percentage of all judges also to the 3rd decimal point
g) a remark is strongly recommended for a mark of 5 or below
h) a remark for all marks is recommended
i) any alterations to marks must be initialled by the judge in ink
j) where there is a difference of 8% or more in the EA levels *up to and including Advanced* between individual judges, the Chief Judge **must** initiate a brief discussion between the judges, preferably with scoresheets available where possible
k) where there is a difference of 5% or more in the *FEI levels* between individual judges, the Chief
l) judge **must** initiate a brief discussion between the judges, preferably with scoresheets available where possible
m) under no circumstances are marks to be altered once the test sheet has been completed and collected from the judge

n) the only instances that a test sheet is to be returned to the relevant judge are as follows:
   - the test sheet has not been signed
   - an altered mark has not been initialed
   - a mark has been missed
   - the scorers are unable to decipher a mark due to bad writing
   - where there are two or more judges and an error of course has been omitted by a judge

o) judges are not to approach the scorers to look at test sheets during the competition
p) it is recommended that judges do not look at scores on the scoreboard during the judging of a competition
q) judges are not to discuss performances in public or at the scoreboard
r) scoring should not be visible to the judges during a test. A running score (total average percentage) and open scoring (average marks per movement for all judges) to the audience is permitted
s) the movement marks of each individual judge may only be shown once confirmed and after final results are posted

7.6.1 Incapacity of a judge

Where a member of the Ground Jury becomes incapable to judge before or during the competition (parts of the test or more), their scores will be removed from the result list of the whole competition. Where it is the C Judge that is incapacitated, the other judge/s must remain in their original judging position. One of the remaining judges will assume the responsibilities of the Chief Judge from their original position.

7.7 Unmarked movement

If a mark has not been recorded and the judge cannot recall the movement, or cannot be found, the mark allotted should be the average of the collective mark/s at the end.

7.8 Protocol for judges accepting invitations to judge

When accepting invitations to judge an event, a judge must:

a) declare their interest in any person or horse who, within the past 12 months immediately preceding the event, they have:
   - trained
   - owned/part owned
   - had any other business interest in

b) even if the rider competes HC, a judge with a conflict of interest is unable to officiate in that competition
c) check details that are important to them and advise organisers of their requirements at the time of first contact
d) be definite and clear about their expectations. This does NOT include continually judging at only highest level of accreditation
e) ask for a contact name, phone number and e-mail address, and request that details be confirmed in writing within the next fortnight
f) follow up two weeks prior to the competition if arrangements have not already been confirmed
g) let the organisers know of any unavoidable changes to their availability as soon as possible
h) arrive at the venue 30 minutes before starting time
i) must have their rulebook with them
j) advise the organisers prior to the day of the competition if they are bringing their own penciller/writer
k) advise the organisers if you require a car (if applicable)

l) remember the dressage event is a joint effort between organisers, competitors and other judges and all deserve to be treated with equal respect and courtesy
m) when accepting a judging commitment make sure they agree on travelling allowance and honorarium and make the OC aware of the distance they have to travel
n) be aware that if they have more than 2 hours drive to the venue they have the right to ask for accommodation the night before (e.g. if starting before 10.30 am, likewise if they are to finish after 6.30 pm) and the same should apply in reverse
o) adhere to the code of conduct, as well as the dress code (at least smart casual and no work jeans) as matter of respect for all involved in the competition
p) make themselves available to discuss test papers with individual riders and make it known to the OC when they are available so that it can be announced over the PA
q) be aware that discussion with a rider about an individual horse/rider test can only take place if the rider has their test sheet with them
r) know the EA Disciplinary By-Law and know what action to take should it occur (i.e. rules as per abuse of horse, rider, judge, etc.) For more information see www.equestrian.org.au
s) insist on the ruling of receiving a draw at the same time as the competitors in order to be aware of any conflicts so that the OC can be advised as quickly as possible. The draw must indicate the breaks and lunch break as well as comply with the 35 horses per competition and 40-horse limit per day rule
t) ask for a mobile number to contact on the day of competition should they be delayed (flat tyre, accident, etc) on the way to the venue
u) offer assistance to the OC should it be necessary prior to the competition with regards to rules and regulations re arenas, footing, risk and safety

Other things to note:

v) at times judges will be asked to judge lower levels (e.g. Preparatory, Preliminary or Novice). This is really where we need our experienced judges in order to make sure that these horses and riders are put on the correct training path. Judges must therefore be prepared to judge all levels up to, and including their accredited level, and not only judge at the higher end of their accreditation
w) a judge is expected to judge what they see in a fair and unbiased way and avoid any personal comments, such as 'have seen horse go better'
x) a judge's commitment to judge is paramount and should only be broken if circumstances beyond their control intervene
y) should such circumstances arise, a judge must try to provide organisers with the name of a replacement who is willing to take their place

7.8.1 Risk management and dogs

a) dogs or other distractions are not permitted in the car or judging box with judges
b) judges must apply risk management and safety principles at all times and act accordingly

7.9 Guidelines for reimbursement of Out-of-pocket expenses for judges, accredited FEI and EA Stewards

It is recommended that judges, accredited FEI stewards and EA stewards are given a reimbursement of expenses as follows:

a) for judges a minimum of $50 per day or $20 per hour of actual judging (whichever is greater)
b) for accredited FEI and EA Stewards a minimum of $50 per day or $20 per stewarding hour up to a maximum of $150 per day

c) mileage at the minimum rate of 68c per km for the round trip to maximum of $300
d) where airfares and/or accommodation are provided, the reimbursement may be negotiated between the judge/ accredited FEI or EA Steward and the OC
e) when a rider, who is also an accredited judge, has entered to compete at an event and subsequently is asked to judge at the same event, the usual practice shall be that the rider/judge is paid the judging honorarium only, but not the travel money
f) judge protocol session to be determined by prior arrangement to a maximum of $300 per day

7.10 General items

a) when selecting writers for International FEI Competitions:
   - first preference should go to Judge Educators and Mentors
   - second preference should go to other senior judges eligible to supervise shadow judging (A, B, C or D level)
   - third preference should go to E, F or G level judges
b) no judge should be expected to judge more than 40 horses/day
c) no judge should judge over 35 horses in any one competition
d) if a judge is required to judge more than one competition, there should be a minimum of 30 minutes between the last horse in one competition and the first horse in the next
e) OCs should provide a quiet area, away from the scoreboard, where judges can be given access to a duplicate copy of the full result sheet and individual judges marks for their perusal
f) judges must stay on the grounds for a period of at least 30 minutes after the posting of the placings, so the results should be collated as quickly as possible
g) the use of electronic communication, including mobile phones, is not permitted while judging
h) judges are not permitted to use videos or any photographic equipment whilst judging
i) when judging FEI level competitions judges are to ensure that they are using the correct FEI level judging sheets (Note: Error of Course penalties are different to FEI rules)

7.11 Draw

a) at least 72 hours before the start of the event, competitors and judges are to be:
   - sent a copy of the draw by e-mail or post, or
   - advised by e-mail when the draw is available along with details of a web address for access to the draw
b) the draw is to include the name/s of the judges for each competition to ascertain any conflict of interest
c) the draw should allow for at least a 15 minute break for judges after every 10 horses judged

7.12 Competitions

Judges must be aware that at competitions:

a) a horse/pony may only enter and compete in 2 consecutive levels e.g. Prelim/Nov, PSG/Int I
b) a horse/pony may only enter and compete in no more than 3 tests in a day, which may include a freestyle test
c) at Prix St Georges and above horses/ponies may only enter and compete in 2 FEI-level competitions per day and this may include a Freestyle. If competing in an FEI test horses can only compete in one other EA test on the day. A horse competing in PSG may only compete in one Advanced competition

7.13 Maximum number of competitors per competition

Judges are to be aware that the maximum number of horses per competition are:

a) 35 up to and including Prix St Georges
b) at the OCs discretion for competitions from Intermediate I to Grand Prix

7.14 Results

a) results must be shown in percentages only (not total marks) to 3 decimal places for each judge, then averaged to achieve a final percentage score
b) scores should be updated on the scoreboard at very regular intervals, and final results should be made available as soon as possible at the completion of a test
c) final results must be signed off by the Chief Judge prior to posting
d) competitors must have access to their test sheet/s at the same time as the final results are posted
e) final result sheets should be given to each judge at the end of competition
f) if a rider withdraws prior to a competition, is excused, eliminated or a 'no show' prior to or during the performance of a test, the words 'withdrawn'/'eliminated'/'no show' or abbreviations must appear after the rider's name on the result sheet

As per rule 7.6 above, a discussion between the judges must take place where there are discrepancies in the marks.

SECTION 10 - AUSTRALIAN/STATE DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS AND FEI- SANCTIONED EVENTS

Australian Dressage Championships

The following rules from10.1 to 10.11 apply to the Australian Dressage Championships unless they are referred from FEI rulings that include the national championships of various nations.

10.1 Administration

In regards to the administration for the Australian Dressage Championships:

a) a draft schedule must be submitted to the EADC for approval at least 6 months prior to the event
b) there must be two competitions only at each level from Elementary to Advanced (inclusive)
c) the tests to be used must include the highest test in the level
d) all levels of FEI-level competitions must be included
e) other levels and tests may also be included (particularly Novice and Freestyles)
f) a maximum of 35 horses may start in any competition up to Intermediate I
g) the number of entries permitted per competition must not be set at less than 30, excluding Freestyles
h) competitions must not be run in divisions, but reserve lists based on ranking may be established
i) the closing date of entries must be not more than 6 weeks and not less than 4 weeks before the start of the Championships
j) there must be a timed draw made available to competitors for:
   - EA competitions – at least 24 hours before the competition commences
   - FEI-sanctioned competitions – as required under FEI rules
k) the competitor's state of origin must be included in the state list, draw and program

10.2 Conditions of Entry

In regards to the Conditions of Entry for the Australia Dressage Championships the following applies:

a) all qualifying scores must have been obtained in Official Competitive competitions
b) horses must exceed 149cm with shoes or 148cm without shoes
c) the qualifying period is the 12 months immediately prior to the close of entries
d) horses must qualify at the level they are entering with one score as follows:
   - at least one qualifying score to have been obtained by the nominated horse/rider
   - only one score from a competition with one judge to be accepted per combination
   - Novice qualifying scores – at least 68%
   - Elementary qualifying scores – at least 65%
   - Medium and Advanced qualifying scores – at least 62%
   - Prix St Georges qualifying scores – at least 62%
   - Intermediate I qualifying scores – at least 62%
   - Intermediate A or B qualifying scores – at least 60%
   - Intermediate II and Grand Prix qualifying scores – at least 60%
   - one HC result in an Official Competitive competition will count as a qualification
   - balloting will take place based on the average of the three best performances at each level
   - three performances will take precedence over two performances
   - a horse's position in the ballot will be based on the average of its qualifying percentages at each level
   - in exceptional circumstances, consideration may be given for a horse that has two high qualifying scores to be ranked above horses with three lower scores on approval by the EADC
   - Eventing Dressage is not considered as a qualification
   - horses may only enter two consecutive levels

e) no horse may take part with more than one rider in an Australian Championship, unless a derby or special competition requires a change of rider. In this case, a specified time will be allotted to the rider for warming-up

10.3 Competition conditions

a) no test may be called
b) during the four days preceding the first day of competition of the event, as well as for the duration of the whole event, horses entered in the Championship may only be ridden and schooled by the rider competing on that horse
c) a groom mounted in the saddle may walk the horse on a long rein only
d) lunging by someone other than the nominated rider is permitted
e) work in-hand by someone other than the nominated rider is not permitted
f) the Grand Prix Freestyle limited to combinations that have achieved at least 58% in the Grand Prix competition
g) the Grand Prix Special is limited to combinations that have achieved at least 60% in the Grand Prix

10.4 Withdrawals

a) no competitor shall withdraw from a competition within eight hours of its commencement without the permission of the OC
b) a written statement giving reasons for any withdrawal must be handed to the Secretary of the Event prior to the commencement of the competition
c) penalty for non-compliance is a maximum fine of AU$200
d) horses withdrawn may be subject to a veterinary inspection

10.5 Other requirements

a) two places in each competition (excluding Freestyles) are reserved at the Australian Championships for the highest qualified combinations from each state, provided that the horse/rider have been approved/nominated by the state branch
b) in the event of a withdrawal of an accepted state combination the OC must fill the vacancy with an entry from that same state
c) the remainder of available spaces are to be filled by taking the horses in order from the ranked list

10.6 Teams

Team entries must be made by state branches before the closing date of entries.

10.6.1 State teams' competitions

a) two state teams' competitions must be held over two categories as below:
   - Elementary, Medium and Advanced level
   - Prix St Georges, Intermediate I and Intermediate II, or Grand Prix
b) a team must consist of three different riders on three different horses that are residents and members of that state (e.g. one team must be made up of a horse and rider combination at Elementary level, a horse and rider combination at Medium level and a horse and rider combination at Advanced level)
c) declaration of the team must be made in writing to the OC by the relevant Chefs d'Equipe by 5.00 pm the day before the start of the event
d) the team test will be the highest test at the relevant level
e) a horse may only compete in one team
f) only one team per state permitted in each category

g) in the case of accident or illness, a nominated individual rider and/or horse, which has been declared as a starter, may be substituted for one of the team member riders and/or horses up to one hour before the start of the relevant competition:
   - if the withdrawal is caused by the illness of the rider they may take no further part on any horse in the event
   - if the withdrawal is based on veterinary advice the horse may take no further part in the event, but the nominated rider is permitted to fulfil other riding engagements on other horses

h) the rider and/or horse that has had to withdraw, may not start as an individual entry from the time of withdrawal for the remainder of the event

i) the winning team is the one having the highest total score, the second is the one with the next highest total score, and so on

j) in case of equality of marks, the winning team is the one where the lowest level competitor has the best result

k) where there are insufficient entries to enable a state team to be entered the smaller states may combine to enter a mixed state team

10.6.2 Open teams' competitions

Individual entries for open teams must be made by competitors before the closing date of entries and the following applies:

a) an open teams' competition may be included in the schedule for the Australian

b) Championships, but must be separate from the state team competition

c) an open teams' competition must be run at the same levels as the state team competitions

d) declaration of a team must be made in writing to the OC by a designated team member by

e) 5 pm on the day before the start of the event

f) the team test will be the highest test at the relevant level

g) riders may compete in more than one open team

h) horses may not compete in more than one open team

i) a combination which forms part of a state team may compete also in an open teams competition

j) open teams may comprise horses and riders from any state(s)

k) the winning team is the one having the highest total score, the second is the one with the next highest total score, and so on

l) in case of equality of marks, the winning team is the one whose lowest level competitor has the highest percentage over both tests

10.7 Officials

The following applies to the different officials required for an Australian Dressage Championship.

10.7.1 Chefs d'Equipe

a) a state which is represented by two or more competitors at an Australian Championship must appoint a Chef d'Equipe

b) the Chef d'Equipe is responsible for all the competitors and horses entered for that state

c) protests may only be lodged by the relevant Chef d'Equipe. (Refer to Section 6 , rule 6.4 for further information on the role)

10.7.2 Judges

a) judges must include at least 6 from **either** overseas or interstate
b) Australian judges must be of at least C level
c) any overseas judges must be on the official dressage judges list of the country in which they live
d) there must be at least three judges for each competition
   - for national competitions no more than two judges are to come from one state per competition
   - for FEI level competitions judges must come from at least three different states
   - wherever possible different judging combinations should be used for each competition
   - wherever possible avoid the use of the same judges for consecutive levels
e) accommodation and travelling expenses must be paid for all judges not living in the host state, unless there is some special arrangement
f) a reserve judge who is capable of judging FEI tests must be available at the venue each day

10.7.3 Appeal Committee

An Appeal Committee consisting of a president and 2–4 members must be appointed to make decisions outside the jurisdiction of the Ground Jury. Refer Section 6 , rule 6.2.

10.7.4 Technical Delegate (TD)

A TD will be appointed by the EADC to approve all administrative arrangements for the event from the time of appointment to the end of the event. It is recommended that the TD be a resident of Australia. The TD may be a member of the Ground Jury. Refer to Section 6, rule 6.3 for further information on the role.

10.7.5 Chief Steward

The Chief Steward is responsible for stewarding and the organisation of the stewarding team during the entire event in co-operation with the OC. The Chief Steward will work closely with the Organising Committee and the Technical Delegate.

a) a National Chief Steward must be appointed
b) a National Chief Steward must be selected from the current FEI Accredited list or EA National Stewards list
c) see rule 7.9 for payment of out of pocket expenses

10.7.6 Organising Committee report

A written report must be submitted by the OC to the first meeting of the EADC after the conclusion of the Championships.

10.8 Horse inspections and swabbing

In relation to horse inspections and swabbing the following applies:

a) all horse inspections will be conducted in accordance with Article 1011 of the Veterinary Regulations and Annex 1 of the FEI Dressage Rule Book
b) horse inspections will be held for Grand Prix horses at Australian Championships
c) horses in the Australian finals of International competitions will also be required to undergo horse inspection
d) random swabbing must be conducted in accordance with the EA National Medication Control Policy
e) three swabs, at least, must be taken at national events

10.9 Determining of placings

The final placings of the Australian Dressage Championships are determined by the following:

a) championships are to be decided on points system
b) all competing horses will be ranked on the combined results of tests at each level
c) the first placed horse will receive 35 points, second will receive 34 points, third will receive 33 points and so on to the last placed horse
d) where there are equal places, the Champion will be the horse with the highest aggregate percentage at that level
   - in the event of a further tie, the horse with the highest percentage in the higher competition at that level will be deemed the Champion
e) the Australian Grand Prix Champion is the combination that achieves the best two scores in either:
   - the Grand Prix and Grand Prix Freestyle
   - the Grand Prix and the Grand Prix Special
f) where both a CDN and CDI-W are offered, only CDI-W Grand Prix performances will count

10.10 Ground facilities

Apart from the competition arenas, a full size arena of a similar surface to the competition arena shall be available for warming-up purposes. Stabling for visiting horses must be provided not too far from the competition grounds.

10.11 Other Australian Championships

10.11.1 Australian Youth Dressage Championships 8–21 years

Australian Youth Dressage Championships are, in principle, to be conducted using the same rules as for the Australian championships.

The Australian Youth Dressage Championships must be conducted in school holidays but not in the January school holiday period because of horse welfare in competing and traveling horses during the summer period.

a) the draft schedule is to be forwarded to the EADC for approval at least six months prior to the event
b) there must be two competitions for each EA level. The highest level test at each level is compulsory
c) all horses and ponies must hold current EA registration and ponies must provide a current EA approved height certificate on request
d) along with EA National tests at all levels, all EA FEI level tests for young riders, juniors and pony riders to be scheduled and limited to FEI age groups. i.e. FEI Pony tests are restricted to the FEI ages 12 – 16yo.
e) a maximum of 35 horses/ponies permitted per competition
f) the following pony/horse structure is to apply
   - Preliminary and Novice competitions-to be separated between horses and ponies
   - Elementary, Medium and Advanced competitions to be open (horses and ponies in same competition)
   - the FEI YR for age group 16 - 21yrs (CDIY team, CDIY individual and CDIY freestyle) - open to horses and ponies. The purpose being to pave the way towards future CDIY participation
g) an additional Small tour program for age group 22 -25yrs may be included (PSG, Inter 1, Inter freestyle)
h) an U25 tour may be included. Qualifying scores for U25 may be obtained at Intermediate A, or B, or Int II or GP at EA or FEI competition
i) a minimum of three judges for EA FEI level competitions
j) competitions may be run in divisions
k) if pony competitions for adult riders are included they are to be conducted as a separate event

l) no FEI sanctioned events may be scheduled (e.g. CDIY)
m) qualifying performances are contained in rule 10.11.1.1
n) two places in each competition (excluding Freestyles) are reserved for the highest qualified combinations from each State
o) judges must be at least C level. Approval of the EADC is required if it is proposed to use lower level judges
p) a minimum of three interstate (from different states) or overseas A or B level judges must be on the Ground Jury
q) a minimum of two accredited judges are required for each EA test and 3 judges for all FEI tests (including Pony and Junior)
r) a Chief Steward must be appointed from the current FEI accredited or National Stewards list. (Rule 6.1 for role, rule 7.9 for payment of out of pocket expenses)

10.11.1.1 Qualifying scores

a) all qualifying scores must have been obtained in Official Dressage Competitive competitions
b) horses must exceed 149cm with shoes or 148cm without shoes
c) the qualifying period is the 12 months immediately prior to the close of entries
d) combinations must qualify at the level they are entering with one score as follows.
   - FEI Pony Test are equivalent to Elementary Level
   - FEI Junior tests are equivalent to Medium Level
   - Preliminary and Novice qualifying score -at least 62%
   - Elementary / Medium (also FEI Pony) qualifying score – at least 60%
   - Medium / Advanced (also FEI Junior) qualifying score – at least 58%
   - Advanced qualifying score – at least 58%
   - PSG and above – at least 58% (also includes FEI Young Rider tour)
e) one HC result only in an Official Competitive competition will count as a qualification
f) balloting will take place based on the average of the three best performances at each level
g) three performances will take precedence over two performances
h) a horse's position in the ballot will be based on the average of its qualifying percentages at each level
i) in exceptional circumstances, consideration may be given for a horse that has two high qualifying scores to be ranked above horses with three lower scores on approval by the EADC

10.11.2 Australian Pony Dressage Championships

Australian Pony Dressage Championships are, in principle, to be conducted using the same rules as for the Australian championships with the following exceptions:

a) the draft schedule is to be forwarded to the EADC for approval at least 6 months prior to the event
b) qualifying performances are to be determined by the EADC
c) if FEI Pony tests are included they are restricted to the FEI Pony Rider ages 12 to 16
d) two places in each competition (excluding Freestyles) are reserved for the highest qualified combinations from each state
e) judges must be at least C level and approval of the EADC is required if the use of lower level judges is proposed
f) a minimum of 2 accredited judges is required for each EA competition
g) a minimum of 3 judges is required for FEI level competitions
h) a minimum of 2 interstate (from different states) A or B level accredited judges must be on the Ground Jury
i) the competitors' state of origin must be included in the programme and draw

j) all ponies must hold current EA registration and must provide an EA approved height certificate on request
k) the highest level test at each level is compulsory
l) competitions may be run in divisions.
m) a Chief Steward must be appointed from the current FEI accredited or National Stewards list. (rule 6.1 for role, rule 7.9 for payment of out of pocket expenses)

10.11.3 Australian Amateur Owner Rider (AAOR) Dressage Championships

Australian Amateur Owner Rider Dressage Championships are, in principle, to be conducted using the same rules as for the Australian Dressage Championships with the following exceptions:

a) the draft schedule is to be forwarded to the EADC for approval at least 6 months prior to the event
b) qualifying performances are to be determined by the EADC
c) two places in each competition (excluding Freestyles) are reserved for the highest qualified combinations from each state
d) judges must be at least C level and approval of the EADC is required if the use of lower level judges is proposed
e) a minimum of 2 accredited judges is required for each EA competition
f) a minimum of 3 judges is required for FEI level competitions
g) a minimum of 2 interstate (from different states) A or B level accredited judges must be on the Ground Jury
h) the competitors' state of origin must be included in the programme and draw
i) the highest level test at each level is compulsory
j) competitions may be run in divisions.
k) a Chief Steward must be appointed from the current FEI accredited or National Stewards list. (rule 6.1 for role, rule 7.9 for payment of out of pocket expenses)

10.12 State Dressage Championships

SDAs are to conduct their state championships using the same rules as for the Australian Championships detailed previously in this section, with the following exceptions:

a) qualifying percentage to be determined by the SDA
b) at least 2 accredited judges are required to judge each competition
c) there is to be a minimum of 3 judges for FEI competitions
d) a minimum of 2 interstate (from different states) A or B level accredited judges must be on the Ground Jury
e) it is up to the state to determine if ponies are to be included
f) the highest level test at each level is not compulsory but must be used if an EA Judges' practical exam is scheduled
g) competitions may be run in divisions if numbers require it
h) a TD is to be appointed by the SDA
i) the schedule is to be approved by the SDA
j) the SDA can determine what levels are to be held e.g. Preliminary, Novice, etc
k) a Chief Steward must be appointed from the current FEI accredited or National Stewards list (rule 6.1 for role, rule 7.9 for payment of out of pocket expenses)

10.13 State Youth Dressage Championships

State Young Riders Dressage Championships are in principle to be conducted using the same rules as the Australian championships with the following exceptions:

a) qualifying performances to be determined by the SDA
b) judges must be at least D level
c) a minimum of 2 accredited judges is required for each EA competition
d) a minimum of 3 judges is required for FEI competitions
e) a minimum of 2 interstate (from different states) or overseas A or B level accredited judges must be on the Ground Jury
f) the competitors' state of origin must be included in the programme and draw
g) all horses and/ponies must hold current EA registration
h) the highest level test at each level is not compulsory but must be used if an EA Judges' practical exam is scheduled
i) competitions may be run in divisions.
j) see 8.13.1 for additional notes on qualifying scores for State and National Interschool competitions.
k) A Chief Steward must be appointed from the current FEI accredited or National Stewards list. (See 4.1 for role) See rule 7.9 for payment of out of pocket expenses

10.13.1 Qualifying scores from State and National Interschool events

The EADC recommends that scores from State and the National Interschool Championships (and interschool competitions in Queensland of Elementary level and above held south of Rockhampton), be accepted as qualifying scores for State and National Youth Championships, as long as they follow the requirements of the number/level of judges required for competition (refer to rule 3.21).

10.14 State Pony Dressage Championships

State Pony Dressage Championships are, in principle, to be conducted using the same rules as for the Australian National Championships with the following exceptions:

a) if FEI Pony tests are included they are restricted to the FEI Pony Rider ages 12 to 16
b) qualifying performances to be determined by the SDA
c) judges must be at least D level
d) a minimum of 2 accredited judges is required for each EA competition
e) a minimum of 3 judges is required for FEI-level competitions
f) a minimum of 2 interstate (from different states) A or B level accredited judges must be on the Ground Jury for NSW, QLD and VIC events
g) a minimum of 2 interstate judges are strongly recommended for the Ground Jury for the NT, SA, TAS and WA events
h) the competitors' state of origin must be included in the program and draw
i) all ponies must hold current EA registration and provide a copy of an EA approved height certificate on request
j) the highest level test at each level is not compulsory but must be used if an EA Judges practical exam is scheduled
k) competitions may be run in divisions
l) a Chief Steward must be appointed from the current FEI accredited or National Stewards list. (See 4.1 for role) See rule 7.9 for payment of out of pocket expenses

10.15 Australian Prix St Georges Stars of the Future

The PSG Stars of the Future is promotional competition to showcase our up-and-coming FEI Small Tour horses. The PSG Stars of the Future Final will be held in conjunction with the Australian Dressage Championships each year.

10.16 Conditions of Entry for the Australian Prix St George Stars of the Future

a) horses must be registered with EA and hold a current Dressage Performance Card/Competitor's Licence
b) riders and owners must be financial members of the EA
c) horses must exceed 149cm with shoes or 148cm without shoe
d) horses may enter qualifying competitions once they have turned 7 years of age (1 August for
e) Southern Hemisphere horses, 1 January for Northern Hemisphere horses)
f) horses must be 10 years or under at the closing date of entries
g) all Official PSG competitions are considered to be qualifying competitions wherever held in Australia providing:
   - there are at least 2 judges, one of whom must be an A level judge
   - it is recommended that there be 3 judges where possible
   - if 3 judges are used then at least one must be A level or above, the other two may be B level
h) the qualifying period is from the closing date of entries for the Australian Dressage Championships up to and including the next closing date of entries for the Australian Dressage Championships
i) riders will be required to nominate for the PSG Challenge final at the time of entering the Australian Dressage Championships
j) horses must qualify by submitting 3 qualifying scores of 60% or better gained during the qualifying period
k) the 12 highest ranked horses will be eligible to compete in the final providing the average qualifying score is at least 65%
l) the Ground Jury of the final:
   - may consist of 5 or 3 members
   - must include at least 2 foreign FEI judges from different countries
   - other members of the Ground Jury must be at least A level

10.17 FEI-sanctioned events

Please refer to the FEI Dressage Rules and FEI World Cup Rules (www.fei.org) in conjunction with the rules for FEI World Cup TM Dressage. The Rules for the Pacific League (Australia and New Zealand) are available at www.equestrian.org.au

10.18 Australian competitors overseas

Australians competing overseas must be aware of the requirements outlined below.

10.18.1 Competitor's Licences

a) riders competing abroad must hold a current Competitor's Licence
b) application for a Competitor's Licence must be made by the rider direct to the EA National Office, accompanied by the relevant fee
c) a Competitor's Licence is only issued for one year at a time

10.18.2 Qualification for CDIs Overseas

a) to gain support from EA in requesting entries for competitions at CDIs overseas, combinations are required to produce proof of gaining a minimum of 63% in at least two competitions (at the level you wish to enter) in national Official Competitive competitions (in Australia or overseas) within the 12 months prior to the closing date of entries
b) the German Short Grand Prix Test (S10) is acceptable as a qualification for the above process.
c) to gain endorsement for CDI5* events, combinations are required to produce proof of gaining at least 66% (in the Grand Prix) at two CDI competitions

d) for U25, Young Riders, Juniors or Ponies to gain support from EA to compete at CDIs overseas combinations are required to produce proof of recently gaining at least 60% or better in two national competitions (in Australia or overseas) at the level they wish to compete in at the CDI
e) In exceptional circumstances the Selectors have discretion to waive the above. Any such decisions being considered are to be discussed with the Chair of the EADC
f) CDIO team standards:
   - EADC encourages participation in Nations Cup events at CDIOs. However, the performances need to be of an acceptable standard as follows:
     - GP: 66% at a CDI in previous 12 months
     - Small Tour: 65% in a CDI in previous 12 months (applies to Wellington Florida CDIO)

10.18.3 Qualification for CDIs in Australia

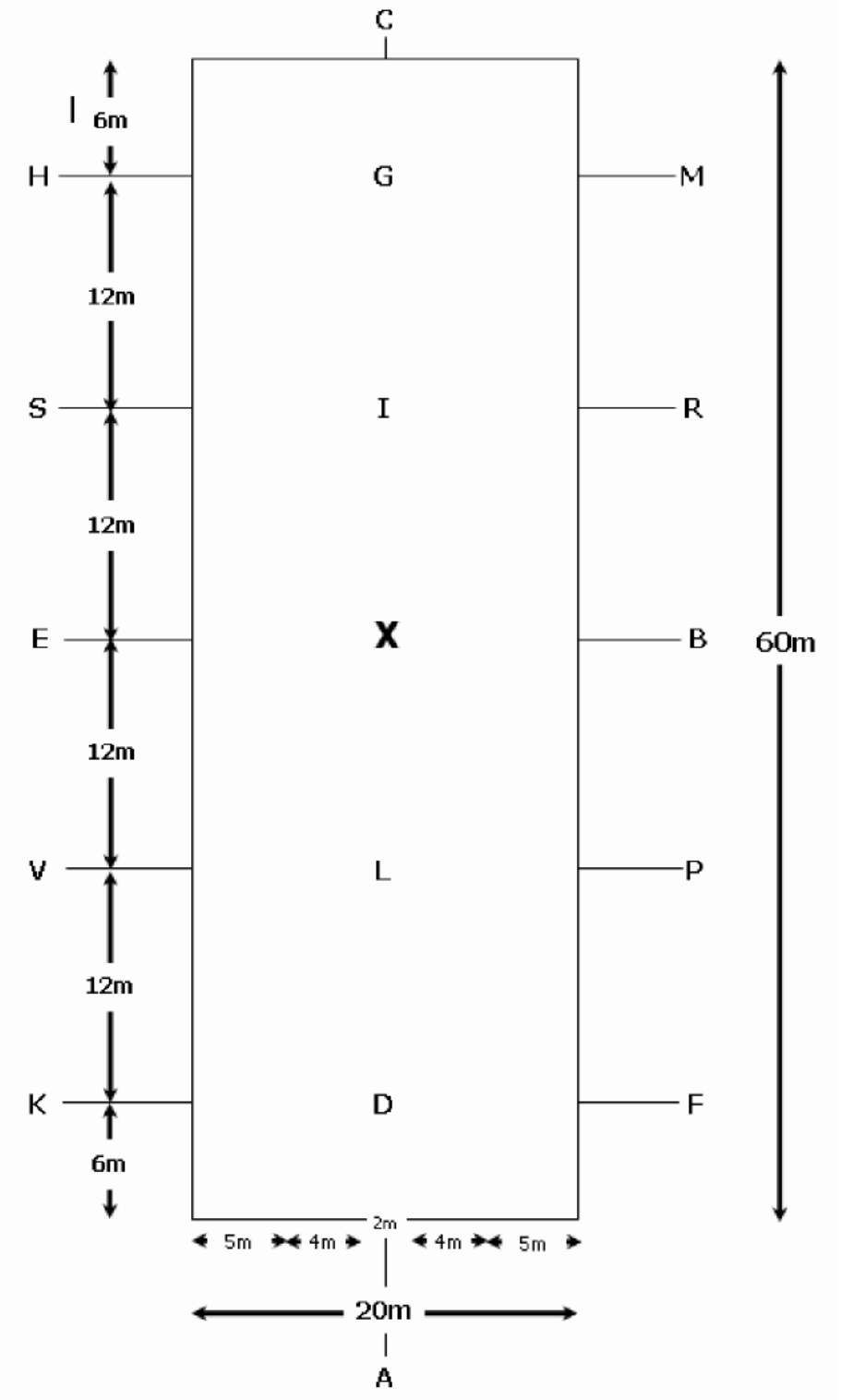
a) to be eligible for CDI/CDIW competitions in Australia combinations are required to produce proof of gaining a minimum of 63% in at least two competitions (at the level you wish to enter) in national Official Competitive competitions (in Australia or overseas) within the 12 months prior to the closing date of entries
b) CDI-U25 competitions combinations are required to produce proof of gaining 60% in two Intermediate A or Intermediate B or Intermediate II or Grand Prix tests in national Official Competitive competitions within the 12 months prior to the closing date of entries
c) CDI-Y, CDI-J and CDI-P combinations are required to produce proof of gaining 60% at level within the12 months prior to close of entries
d) in exceptional circumstances the Selectors have discretion to waive the above. Any such decision being considered are to be discussed with the Chair of the EADC

ANNEXES

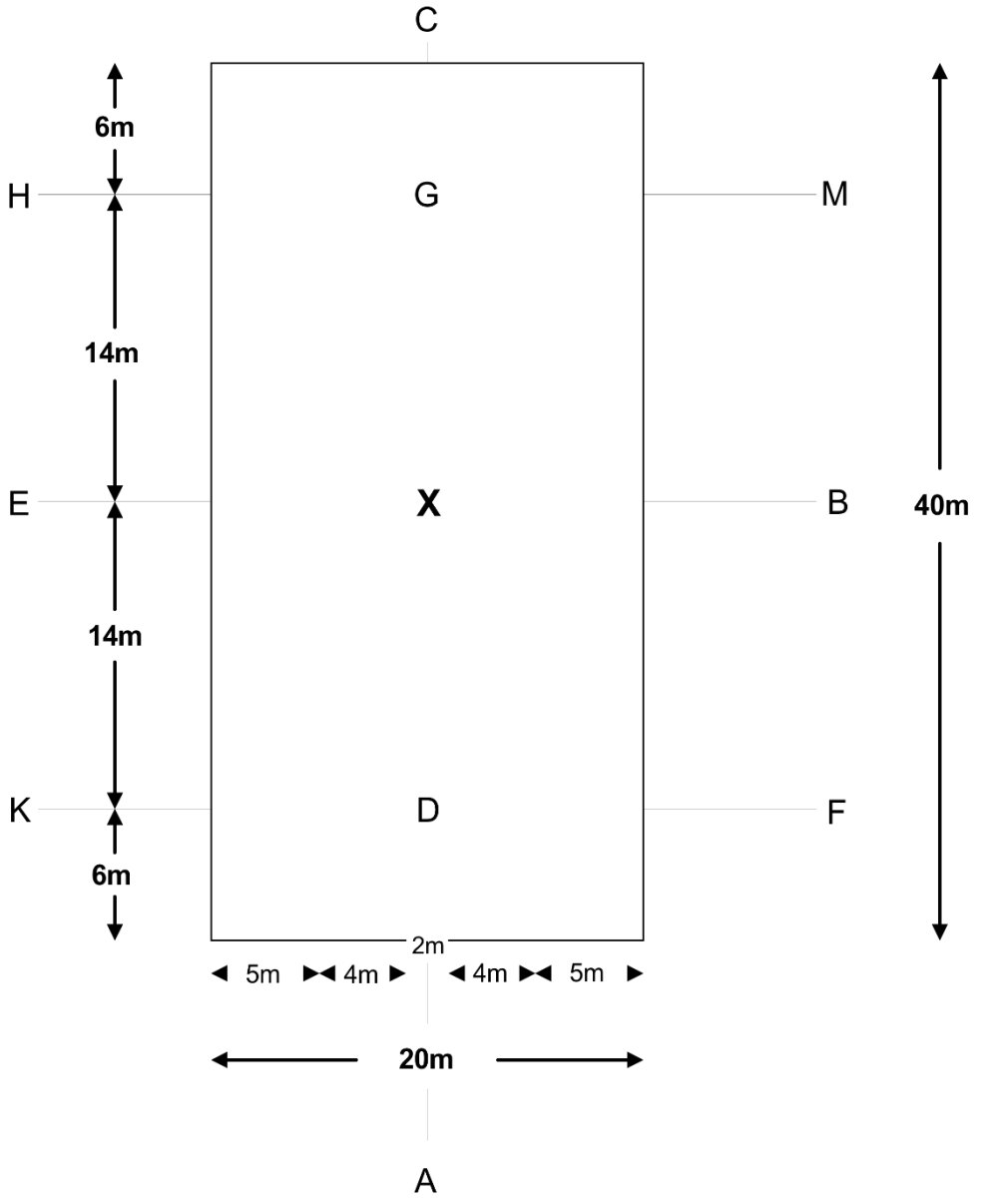
Annex A - Dressage arenas and Diagrams of the geometry of riding movements

Below are diagrams of a 60 m x 20 m and 40 m x 20 m dressage arena showing the measurements between markers and marker position. Note entrance must be minimum of 2 metres and no greater than 4 metres.

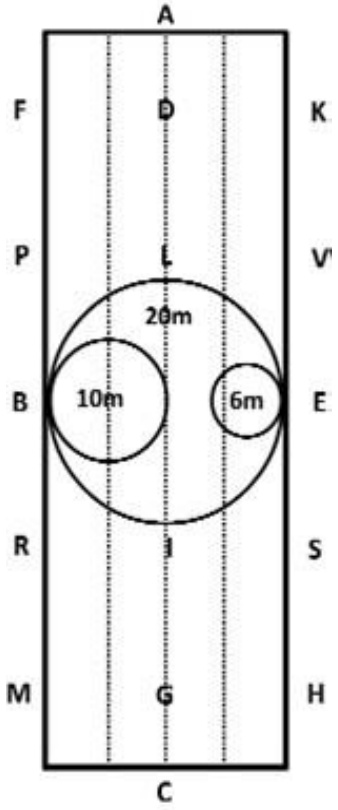
A 60 m x 20 m dressage arena

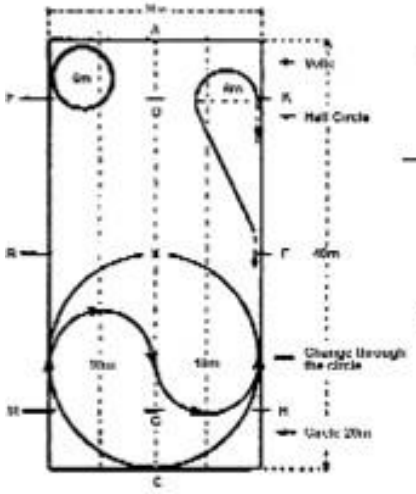


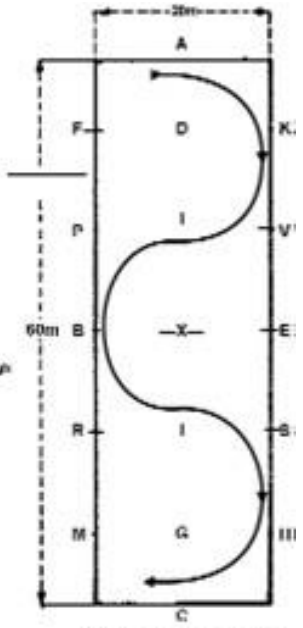
A 40 m x 20 m dressage arena



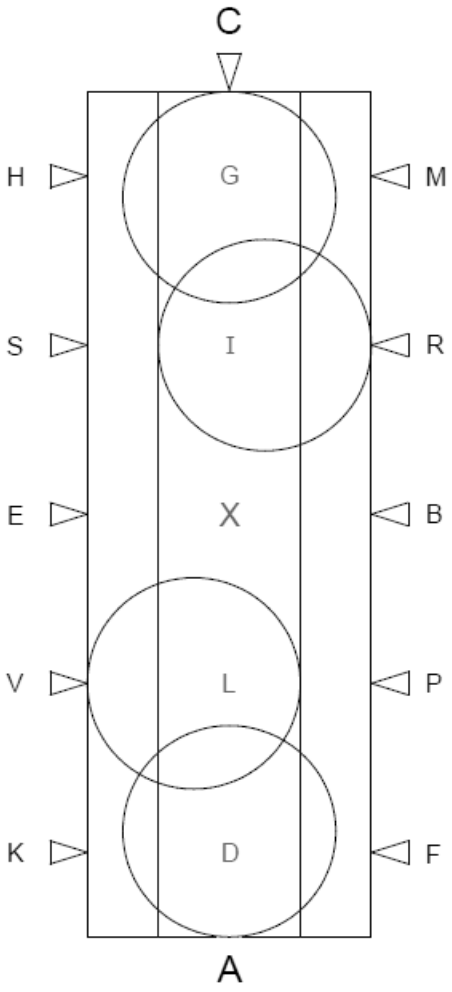
Geometry - the different size circles



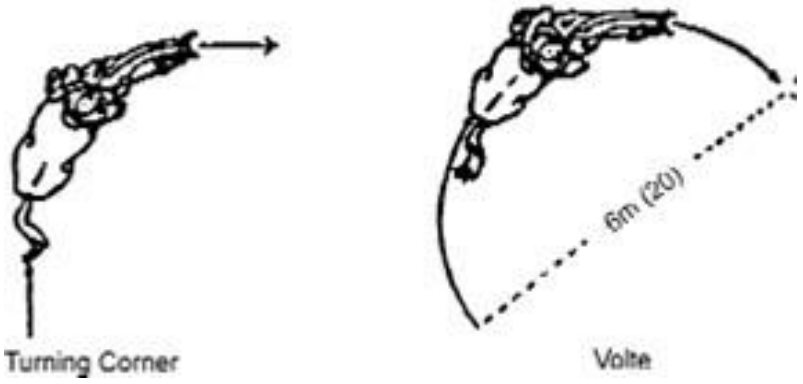




Serpentine of three loops



15 m circles



Annex C - Hot weather policy

C.1 Horses

Horses exercising and competing in hot environmental conditions can be affected by heat stress. When environmental heat conditions are adverse, exercising horses require appropriate cooling measures to safeguard their welfare. The primary responsibility for the welfare of horses competing and exercising during hot weather lies with the rider of the horse. Riders must always take action to prevent, manage and treat heat stress in their horses. Event organisers are responsible for providing adequate facilities and information that riders need to safeguard the welfare of horses. Access to ice and cooling water during competition is a compulsory requirement that arises under certain environmental conditions.

To assess the risk of heat stress in horses, the FEI uses the Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) Index. WGBT information is published on the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) website under their Thermal Comfort Observations webpages (see http://www.bom.gov.au/info/thermal_stress/.) WBGT information is published on the BOM website for each Australian state and territory with regional indices.

Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) from Temperature and Relative Humidity

Relative Humidity (%) \ Temperature (°C)	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
0	15	16	16	17	18	18	19	19	20	20	21	22	22	23	23	24	24	25	25	26	27	27	28	28	29	29	30	31	31	32	32
5	16	16	17	18	18	19	19	20	21	21	22	22	23	24	24	25	26	26	27	27	28	29	29	30	31	31	32	33	33	34	35
10	16	17	17	18	19	19	20	21	21	22	23	23	24	25	25	26	27	27	28	29	30	30	31	32	32	33	34	35	36	36	37
15	17	17	18	19	19	20	21	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	26	27	28	29	29	30	31	32	33	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	
20	17	18	18	19	20	21	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	27	28	29	30	31	32	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39			
25	18	18	19	20	20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39					
30	18	19	20	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	39							
35	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39								
40	19	20	21	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39									
45	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	27	28	29	30	32	33	34	35	36	37	38											
50	20	21	22	23	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	33	34	35	36	37	39												
55	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	34	35	36	37	38													
60	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	35	36	37	38														
65	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	31	32	33	34	36	37	38															
70	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	33	34	35	36	38	39								WBGT > 40							
75	22	23	24	25	26	27	29	30	31	32	33	35	36	37	39																
80	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	32	33	34	36	37	38																	
85	23	24	25	26	28	29	30	31	32	34	35	37	38	39																	
90	24	25	26	27	28	29	31	32	33	35	36	37	39																		
95	24	25	26	27	29	30	31	33	34	35	37	38																			
100	24	26	27	28	29	31	32	33	35	36	38	39																			

Note: This table is compiled from an approximate formula which only depends on temperature and humidity. The formula is valid for full sunshine and a light wind

WBGT	Example ^{0}C: RH%	Recommendations for competitions	Required cooling Facilities/methods
<28	30:45	No changes needed to the competition format or timing.	1. Access to least 2 wash bays with freely running water via hoses. 2. Shaded areas/shelters. 3. **Not**: each horse may need to be hosed with 2 hoses for 20–40 minutes if heat stressed.
28–30	29:60	Some precautions to reduce heat load on horses will be necessary such as: • use shaded areas for competition and warm up areas • avoid non-grassed riding surfaces • reduction in overall effort (shorter distance, less jumping efforts, etc) • competition PA announcements.	1. Access to least 2 wash bays with freely running water via hoses. 2. Shaded areas/shelters. 3. **NOTE**: each horse may need to be hosed with 2 hoses for 20–40 minutes if heat stressed.
30–33	30:65	Additional precautions to those above to limit overheating of horses will be necessary. • The timing of events/competition should be considered. Competitions ***should*** be held in cooler parts of the day (between 7 am – 11 am and/or after 4 pm). • Avoid non-grassed riding surfaces • Competition PA announcements. • CCI ** and CCI ***Eventing horses require **AGGRESSIVE COOLING MEASURES**	1. Access to least 2 wash bays with freely running water via hoses. 2. Shaded areas/shelters. 3. **Mandatory provision of ad lib ice for use in cooling horses. AGGRESSIVE COOLING MEASURES ARE COMPULSORY FOR CCI **/*** EVENTING HORSES** 4. **NOTE**: each horse may need to be hosed with 2 hoses for 20–40 minutes if heat stressed.
>33	32:60	These environmental conditions are very high risk and are probably not compatible with safe competition. **Further veterinary consultation/advice will be required before continuing**. • The timing of events/competition should be considered. Competitions or the 'high exertion phase' of the event ***must*** be held during cooler parts of the day (between 7 am – 11.00 am and/or after 4 pm). • **Higher level competitions should be run in the coolest part of the day.** • Schedule the most demanding competition/competition phases when it is cooler. • The lower level competitions generally make lower demands on horses. • Avoid non-grassed riding surfaces • **Competition PA announcements – frequently repeated. (See below)**	1. Access to least 2 wash bays with freely running water via hoses. 2. Shaded areas/shelters. 3. **Mandatory provision of ad lib ice for use in cooling horses. AGGRESSIVE COOLING MEASURES ARE COMPULSORY FOR ALL HORSES** Additional requirements for eventing competitions: 4. A shaded area with misting fans 5. A veterinarian to monitor horses.

C.2 Competition PA heat risk announcements

a) explanations of the 6-minute threshold (see Rule C3.2 below) in any demanding exercise (not just Cross Country exercise), as being pivotal in heat overload
b) encouraging riders to pre-cool their horses by hosing them before riding to place lower demands on the horse's cooling system while they work
c) encouraging abbreviated warm-ups to lighten the load on the horses' cooling systems
d) explanations of aggressive cooling until the horse's temperature returns to 38ºC
e) encouraging the use of ice and a shaded area with misting fans, to cool horses after exercise
f) encouraging hydration of every horse with cool clean water, salt and electrolytes
g) encourage riders to 'house' resting horses in shaded areas and/or on grass surfaces

C.3 Key principles

Any organiser of an event to be held in hot weather must understand the following key principles:

C 3.1 Humidity and heat – a dangerous mix causing heat overload

Combinations of high heat and humidity impact severely on a horse's main cooling mechanism of sweating and evaporation. A heat stressed horse can have multiple organ failure; it may collapse and die.

Unless cooling facilities equivalent to FEI standard are in place at an event, the FEI strongly recommends that riding activities be suspended when the WBGT Index reaches or exceeds 32–33ºC.

C.3.2 The 6-minute threshold – heat overload for horses working in the heat

Where the WBGT Index is high, horses that have just performed are at risk of suffering a dangerous temperature hike. When the WBGT Index is high, 6.0–6.5 minutes of continuous hard work (i.e. the 6-minute threshold) is pivotal in causing heat stress. Dressage horses do work extremely hard in both the warm up and in their tests. For showjumpers the effort is generally under 6 minutes, however for dressage and cross country, horses are at risk in heat because the effort will exceed 6 minutes.

Aggressive cooling (see below) should be used after a performance for a dressage horse when the WBGT is high, just as for horses coming off a cross country course.

C.3.3 Wind flow (breeze) dramatically reduces heat overload

Wind flow significantly increases evaporation. The primary cooling mechanism for both horses and humans is evaporation of sweat. On hot days, events should be scheduled early or late, when better Cind flow is likely and outside of peak temperature periods.

Horses *standing* in the sun without shade or wind flow in temperatures above 33°C start to accumulate heat. Horses *working* in the sun without wind flow at or above 33 °C are at risk.

C.3.4 Surface area to body mass (SA:BM)

As body mass increases, relative surface area decreases. An 80 kg rider will have a SA:BM = 1:40, but a 500 kg horse has a SA:BM = 1:100. Surface area to body mass ratio impacts negatively on a horse's ability to shed heat through evaporation. Greater muscling in some horses, such as dressage horses, lowers their SA:BM ratios and makes them less effective than other equine athletes at shedding heat.

C.3.5 Arena and surfaces

Shaded and grassy surfaces do not attract and retain as much heat as other surfaces that are soil-based or exposed to full sunlight. Horses restrained next to vehicles/floats/trucks parked on black asphalt, road base or sand are more susceptible to heat stress on hot days.

C.3.6 Event planning

Event organisers ***must*** conduct a risk management assessment if competitions/training days are to be held during hot conditions. Decisions and actions that may be considered include:

- alteration of time of day or time of year at which an event is run
- reduction in overall effort (shorter distance, less jumping efforts, etc)
- education of riders, grooms and officials
- provision of shade
- provision of adequate means of cooling horses, including ice, fans, hoses, water baths, etc
- provision of veterinary services for heat-stressed horses.

Appendix A

Aggressive cooling measures

Aggressive cooling should be used where a horse's temperature is elevated after any demanding exercise such as dressage or cross country and when the WBGT Index is high.

Cooling includes use of high volumes of cold/ice water application, ice boots, repeatedly applying bucketfuls of iced/cold water, and repeatedly hosing and immediately scraping water as it warms on the horse's body.

Key areas to apply cooling/iced water to are the jugular veins (underside of neck), the femoral arteries (between hind legs) and the heat sink (lower abdomen). Aggressive cooling should continue until water is no longer heating up on the horse, or until the horse's temperature is back to a healthy 38º C (rather than heading up to a dangerous 40º C).

Appendix B

Anhydrosis in horses

This condition is also called drycoatedness, or 'the puffs'. Only two species, humans and horses, rely on evaporating sweat to shed excess heat. Horses naturally have a very efficient cooling mechanism as part of their thermoregulation system.

Hindgut fluid reserve acts as a 'heat sink' (the hind gut stores 60 litres of fluid where some heat can be diverted to reduce damage to vital organs).

During humid weather when the relative humidity exceeds 85%, the efficiency of sweat evaporation from the skin decreases by 5% for every 2% increases in relative humidity, which greatly increases the risk of heat stress.

Some people think that when a horse's coat is dry or has only patchy sweat when worked on a hot day, this indicates that the horse is handling the heat. In fact, a dry coat is a cause for great concern as the horse could be losing the ability to sweat (anhydrosis), indicating a faulty or a completely broken cooling system. As a result the horse may suffer heat stroke and collapse.

Unlike dogs, horses are not designed to pant. When a horse pants or 'puffs' this means it is suffering heat stress and requires immediate cooling.

Appendix C

Cooling systems in horses

- **Evaporation and convection:** This makes up for 60% of cooling. Horses shed excess heat through sweating and having air moving over them. Horses standing in the sun without shade or wind flow (breeze) in temperatures above 33° C, start to accumulate heat.

- **Radiation and conduction:** Once the air temperature is over 33°C, even a horse at rest needs to shed heat. A horse that has a large size and mass finds this harder than smaller animals, or even a lighter framed horse.
- **Respiratory loss:** This makes up 15% of cooling for horses during exercise.

Appendix D

The FEI standard cooling facilities

To enable aggressive cooling to be carried out when the WBGT exceeds 32–33 ºC, the following should be available at an event:

- multiple hoses and wash bays for cooling/hosing
- large bins (ideally wheelie bins) full of water and bags of ice for aggressive cooling
- free ice ad lib, an abundance of bags of ice for ice boots or for riders to add to water to cool horses after exercise
- a shaded area with misting fans
- an equine veterinarian

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References

1) *The effect of thermal environmental conditions on the health and performance of horses,* Dr David J Marlin (BSc, PhD), 2007
2) *Comfort Index: Impact of heat and humidity on competition horses,* Liz Owens for EADC, 2011
3) *Helping horses to handle the heat*, Dr John Kohnke (B.VSc)
4) *Better Coaching, Advanced Coaches' Manual*, Frank S Pyke, Australian Sports Commission

The impact of heat and humidity on dressage horses has been poorly understood by many in the industry in Australia. There have been instances of horses dying and/or requiring intensive veterinary care following dressage competition or clinics in such conditions in Australia.

Heat overload (heat stress or even heat stroke) occurs when an individual cannot shed sufficient heat to maintain a normal core temperature (38ºC for a horse and 38ºC for a person). Definitive research on this subject by Dr David Marlin recommends:

'*The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) forecast is based on the temperature* **in the shade***. The temperature for horses and riders warming up and competing* **in the sun***, and for judges in cars, will be* **much** *higher than this.*

Annex D - Arena familiarisation and altered circumstances at EA events

These are guidelines for competition organisers and judges (refer also to rule 3.7). The safety of horse and rider is paramount at all times.

Arena familiarisation

- where possible, allow competitors a designated time to ride around and in the competition arenas on the day of the competition, if this has not been possible on the previous day
- if conditions are suitable, time may also be allocated during the day, but this will depend on the organisers and venue requirements
- OCs should specify the arena familiarisation arrangements in the competition draw and also specify at what pace horses are permitted to travel. For example, *Arenas will be available from 7.30 am to 8.15 am on the day of the competition for familiarisation. Please make sure that you ride only at (pace to be noted here by OC if there is a restriction)*
- warm-up areas should be supervised by a steward

Altered circumstances

- if the wind becomes strong enough to blow down the arena surrounds, it is preferable to leave it on the ground, so that horses are not accidently frightened when the arena blows down again. Obviously the conditions may be different for some riders in the competition but common sense should prevail
- if arenas or arena surrounds are covered in water either at the start of the day, or at some point later in the day, please arrange for riders to commence their tests from inside the arena. This gives the horses the opportunity to become familiar with the varying conditions in the arena
- some arenas have insufficient surrounding space and unsuitable footing for horses to work safely and comfortably around the outside before entering the test. In these circumstances please make sure that riders commence their tests from inside the arena

Protocol for entering the arena in exceptional circumstances

If the area surrounding the competition arena is unsuitable for riding on, the Chief Judge, in consultation with the OC, will make a decision as to whether competitors will be permitted to commence their test from inside the arena. Such a decision *must* be announced at least 30 minutes prior to the commencement of the competition or, in the case of a sudden downpour, as soon as possible. Please note that this is Judge/OC/TD only decision.

If such approval is given the competitor is to enter the arena and when the bell has been rung (e.g. car horn sounded) the competitor is required to come down the centre line at A (via the shortest route) and judging commences once the rider is on the centre line.

The next horse in the competition can enter the arena as soon as the previous horse has left the arena.

Annex E - Elimination and penalties

The following table is provided for judges as a quick reference for incidents that result in elimination or where a competitor 'may' be eliminated or given a penalty.

Rule	Will entail elimination
1.3	Excessive use of whip or spur, bit or hands.
1.3.2	Unable to fulfil the requirements of the level and the test and/or shows abusive riding. No appeal against this decision
1.4	Fresh blood in the test – no appeal
1.4.1 & 5.17	Any form of protective skin covering on the horse such as plaster/tape/belly band covering or towel, whether the skin is broken or not is strictly forbidden at an event
3.10	Resistance for 20 seconds or more
3.10	Resistance that is a safety issue/dangerous to horse and/or rider, can be less than 20 seconds
3.10	Leaving the arena with all 4 feet during a test between beginning and end of a test (except 4yoYH at State Qualifiers
3.11	Unauthorised assistance
3.12	Riding in or entering competition arena without permission
3.15	Holding reins in one hand while using whip with other hand in competition arena
3.17, 5.1	Third error of course
3.18	Marked lameness – no appeal
3.7	Not entering the arena after a further 30 seconds (total 75 seconds) after the bell has rung (first penalty of – 2 pts for not entering after 45 sec)
3.8	Leaving the arena unmounted
3.8	Fall of horse and/or rider between entry at A and the final salute
5.0	Riding with non permitted equipment or not wearing required equipment
5.10	Wearing a western saddle will entail elimination
5.11	Wearing a bitless bridle
5.12	False tails with metal in them
5.12	Blinkers, ear plugs, nasal strips, nose nets (without approval refer to Rule 5.15), bit guards, bearing, running or balancing reins, chambon, deGogue etc, not permitted at event
5.12 5.16 5.17	Permitted in warm-up and exercise area but NOT into competition area – running martingale (with snaffle bridle), removable over boots (Easy Boot, Hoof Boot, Mac Boot), saddle covers, headphones or similar devices
5.13 3.12.1	Lunging with more than one lunge rein, lunging with rider in the saddle, lunging with double bridle, long reining. Lunging outside of designated area
5.2	Safety helmet must be worn and have harness secured. See option for FEI level rule 5.1.4
5.10.1	Wearing lock-in stirrups, stirrup tie downs or magnetised stirrup irons
5.11.1	Wearing a one eared bridle
5.11.1	Not wearing a noseband
5.11.1	Wearing more than one noseband
5.3	Unsafe footwear is worn
5.5	Wearing spurs that point inwards, tip points upwards or incorrect spurs. (swan neck spurs permitted)
5.5	Pony riders wearing spurs that are longer than 4 cm
5.6	Carrying a whip that exceeds the required length – 1 m for ponies or 1.2 m for horses
5.6	Carrying a whip for more than 3 movements in FEI comps at State/Australian C'Ships
5.11.1	Wearing non approved noseband –see rule 5.19
5.11.1.3	Wrapping of the bit with any material
5.11.1.3	Wearing Incorrect sizes or types of bits
5.11.2.3	Not wearing cavesson noseband with double bridle (no lower strap to be worn)
8.1	Failure to enter arena after 90 sec freestyle
9.1.2	Not wearing safety helmet in ALL 4-, 5-, 6-year-old Young Horse competitions
	May Entail Elimination
1.1	Breach of rules as outlined in Rule 1.1
3.11	Horses may not be attached to a lead line in or around the competition arena – this is Considered outside assistance
3.14	Calling test – caller can read or 2 times only

Rule	Points deducted	Penalties will be incurred
3.7	2 per judge	Exceeding 45 seconds to enter the arena
3.7	2 per judge	Failure to salute at the entry halt or final halt
3.7	2 per judge	Entering the arena before the bell is sounded
3.16	2 per judge	Use of voice -2 from the judges that hear it
3.17	2 per judge	1st error of course
3.17	4 per judge	2nd error of course
5.1, 5.7, 5.8	2 per judge	Incorrect dress where a penalty is provided for
5.4	2 per judge	Wearing gaiters in FEI-level competitions
5.6	2 per judge	FEI-level comps at Australian and State C'Ships - Entering the space around the arena carrying a whip
5.6	2 per judge	FEI -level Comps at Australian and State Championships – Entering the arena carrying a whip
5.10	2 per judge	Saddle or bridle not black or brown
5.11	2 per judge	Fleece or other visible padding on the upper side of bridle
5.12, 5.17	2 per judge	Wearing boots, bell boots and/or bandages in the space around the arena
5.12	2 per judge	Wearing boots, bell boots and/or bandages if worn in the arena
8.1	0.5% per judge	Not giving the signal for the music to start within 45 seconds of the bell
8.1	0.5% per judge	Entering the arena after 30 seconds of music
8.1	0.5% per judge	If the rider enters the arena clearly late
8.1	0.5% per judge	If the test is longer or shorter than stipulated
9.1	0.5%	1st error Young Horse
9.1	1.0%	2nd error Young Horse
9.1	2 per judge	4-year-old YH competition – if horse leaves arena with all 4 feet
9.1.2	- 2pts 0.1	Carrying a whip in the space around the arena at Australian YH Championships in 5, 6 and 7 year-old competition. To be deducted after score has been multiplied by 2 for a score out of 100

Annex G - Notes for dressage event organisers

This guide is designed to assist dressage event organisers who wish to run dressage events in Australia. The notes must be read in conjunction with Sections 1–12 of the current EA Dressage Rules. A dressage event may vary from a small club-training event to an official championship event. Event organisers should refer any organisational or rule queries in the first instance to their State Dressage Authority (SDA).

The magnitude of the administration and fieldwork involved will vary according to the type and status of the event. Organisers must use their judgment to adapt whatever is suitable to run an event in a professional manner.

When conducting FEI-level tests at an EA event, the OC must ensure that they are using only the FEI-level test as these are specifically for EA rules. DO NOT use the FEI tests off the FEI website.

G.1 Categories of dressage events

Type of event	For approval apply to	Required
FEI Events – CDI	EADC/EA/FEI	Required
FEI Events – CPEDI	EADC/EA/FEI	Required
Australian Championships	EADC	Required
PE Australian Championships	EADC	Required
Australian Youth Championships 10–25	EADC	Required
Australian Young Horse Finals	EADC	Required
State Championships	SDA	Required
PE State Championships	SDA	Required
State Youth Championships	SDA	Required
Official Pony Events incl. Championships	SDA	Required
Club/Regional Championships	SDA	Required
Official Competitive events	SDA	Required
Young Horse qualifying events	SDA	Required
Official Participation events	SDA	Required by some states
Restricted Training/Club events	N/A	Not required

G.2 Calendar

a) application/s for permission to hold an Official dressage event or competition must be made in writing to the relevant SDA
b) all Official events must be approved by the SDA
c) all Official events will be listed in the appropriate SDA annual competition calendar
d) all Participation event dates should be notified to the appropriate SDA
e) if an Official event is cancelled the SDA must be notified
f) date changes must have the approval of the SDA
g) careful consideration of neighbouring clubs should be made when applying for dates
h) be aware of your SDA closing date for applications to run Official events

G.3 General considerations

a) organising bodies wishing to conduct Official Competitive or Participation dressage events in Australia must be currently affiliated with EA
b) all Official Competitive and Participation events must be run in accordance with the current EA Dressage Rules
c) all members of a dressage organising committee should have access to a current EA Dressage rule book
d) for information on protests, reports and appeals refer to EA General Regulations www.equestrian.org.au

e) OCs are to be aware of any legislation within their state in relation to child protection. National, state and territory sports organisations have developed child protection guidelines. These guidelines can help you put policies in place to protect your club and your members. For additional information on required checks for people working with juniors, please contact your state or territory department of sport and recreation (see http://www.ausport.gov.au/supporting/clubs/resource_library/starting_a_club/child_protection)

f) OCs are responsible for assessing environmental issues such as extreme heat, storms, high winds, etc, which may make conditions for running an event unsafe for competitors and their horses. For more information refer to Annex C

g) welfare of the horse is paramount at all events (refer to rule 1.2 and 1.3)

G.4 Venues

a) the best possible venue should be secured for the conduct of a dressage event
b) the venue should be booked well in advance of the proposed event
c) Organising committees should be aware of what facilities are or are not available
d) examples of ideal venue facilities include:

○ Day stalls	○ Suitable arena surfaces more than 1 arena	○ Motel in area
○ Stables	○ Toilets	○ Admin / Office
○ Covered yards	○ Showers	○ Scoring Office
○ Wash bays	○ Powered camp sites	○ Catering / Canteen
○ Round yard	○ Spectator parking	○ Judges / Official area

G.5 Arenas

Wherever possible a designated area should be set aside for lunging. Non-compliance with lunging in a designated area or with non permitted equipment will entail elimination.

a) the surface of arenas is vital for the safety and performance of horses competing and should be made of the best possible footing, such as sand or sand mix with a non-slip base. Other non-slip surfaces are acceptable
b) for other arena requirements including surrounds refer to rule 3.6
c) for positioning of judges refer to rule 7.1
d) Wherever possible a designated area should be set aside for lunging. Ideally organising committees should provide a clearly marked and designated lunging area, preferably enclosed so there is no risk of escaping horse

G.6 Schedule

a) the event schedule will be dependent on the type of event to be held
b) the schedule should be prepared well in advance of the event and made publicly available to competitors in a timely fashion taking into account the closing date
c) competitions offered in the schedule should reflect the type of event, expected competitors and venue
d) event organisers must refer to the current EA Dressage Rules (see Section4 *Conditions of Entry* and Section 3 *Dressage events*) prior to finalising the event schedule
e) Young Horse event organisers refer to the current EA Dressage Rules, Section 9
f) Australian/State and FEI-sanctioned events refer to the Current EA Dressage Rules, Section 10
g) the schedule must include the following minimum information:

• name of organisation running event • venue address • status of event Official Competitive and/or Restricted, etc • list of competitions being offered • entry fees • other fees such as stables/admin fees • closing date for entries • address for entries to be sent	• phone contact details for organiser • email address for organiser • prize schedule • any special conditions • type of arena surface • EA web address link to current tests • organisers web address • callers permitted or not permitted

G.6.1 Entry form

The entry form must request the following minimum information:

Information required	Official Competitive	Official Participation	Restricted event
Horse EA number	✓		
Horse registered name	✓	✓	✓
Horse Identification number	✓		
Whether competing horse or pony	✓		
Horse current grading points	✓	✓	✓
Rider EA number	✓		
Rider name, address, contact details	✓	✓	✓
Owner EA number	✓		
Proof of membership – EA or Club	✓	✓	✓
Competitions entering	✓	✓	✓
Summary of fees and method of payment	✓	✓	✓
Closing date of entries and address to be sent	✓	✓	✓
EA Member Release and Waiver	✓	✓	✓
Method of draw distribution	✓	✓	✓

G.6.2 Time draw

When completing a time draw organisers are advised to be aware of number of circumstances that must be considered.

a) it is strongly recommended that arena familiarisation times be included in the draw and that they be clearly shown in the programme (refer to Section 3, Annex D)
b) once entries have closed organisers should prepare a competition plan to complete the time draw (number of arenas required, time required)
c) draws can be generated manually or by computer
d) the time to allow for each test is printed on each EA/FEI test sheet
e) it is strongly recommended to allow 60 to 90 minutes between tests for the same horse, and at least 90 minutes at FEI levels, as these are more strenuous tests
f) draws should be unbiased
g) care should be taken not to have the same competitor riding first in more than one test
h) Organising committees may accept requests from riders entering 2 horses in the same competition to schedule one horse before the other in the draw, providing this request is made at the time of entry. This does not apply for State or National Championships
i) no judge should be expected to judge more than 40 horses/day
j) no judge should judge more than 35 horses in any one competition
k) there should be a break for judges of at least 15 minutes after every 10th horse
l) if a judge is required to judge more than one competition, there should be a minimum of 30 minutes between the last horse in one competition and the first horse in the next
m) the time draw **must** be made available to all competitors and judges at least 72 hours before the event. It should include the judge's names to ascertain conflict of interest
n) other information to be included when sending out the time draw should include all relevant information pertaining to the event: stable allocation, refreshments available, contact details for withdrawals, etc
o) horses can only be changed after close of entries by approval of the OC and not later than 48 hours before the start of the event. Riders can be changed up to 40 mins prior to start of the competition for legitimate reason by a written request to the OC at whose discretion it will be permitted
p) where a competitor has entered 2 horses in the one competition:
    - the draw time between the 2 horses should be a minimum of 90 minutes and riders can opt for less
    - under no circumstances are the horse's draw times to be swapped once the draw has been completed

q) the OC may ask riders to move up into scratchings but this is at the discretion of the rider and not compulsory
r) the competitor's state of origin must be included in the start list, draw and program for State and National Championships

G.7 Judges

a) only current judges are eligible to officiate at Official Competitive and Participation events/competitions (refer to http://www.equestrian.org.au or your SDA for current lists)
b) for Ground Jury requirements refer to rule 6.1
c) invitations to judges should be made at least 3 months prior to an event, preferably by email or letter
d) it is the judge's responsibility to immediately advise the organiser if they have a conflict of interest with any competitor or horse (refer to rule 1.7)
e) for protocols for judges accepting invitations to judge refer to rule 7.8
f) refer to rule 7.1 for the placement of judges around the arena

Refer to Tables at 3.21 for the number and level of Judges required to Judge Official Competitive and Official Participation Competitions.

Immediate confirmation of	Pre Event Follow-up information
* event date/s	* draw to be sent to each judge once completed
* event location/address	* provide contact phone number for competition day
* accommodation requirements	* advise judge where they should report to
* confirm travel remuneration	* keep judges informed of any changes to program
* tests to be judged	* advise judge of accommodation booking
* hourly remuneration if applicable	

G.7.1 O u t of pocket expenses for judges

Refer to rule 7.9 for payment of out of pocket expenses for judges and the Chief Steward.

G.8 Other officials and volunteers

Officials and volunteers play a vital role when running a dressage event. The following table indicates what type of event requires which officials and volunteers.

Official/Volunteer role	Championships	Competitive	Participation	Restricted
Event Convener/Event Director	✓	✓	✓	✓
Judges	✓	✓	✓	✓
Writers (1 per judge)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Scorers	✓	✓	✓	✓
Gear Stewards	✓	✓	✓	✓
Test Collectors	✓	✓	✓	✓
Chief Steward	✓	Highly recommended		
Technical Delegate	✓			
Event Secretary	✓	✓	✓	✓
Judge Host	✓	✓	✓	✓
Financial Manager	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sponsor Host	✓	✓		
Prizegiving Manager	✓	✓		
Catering Manager	✓	✓	✓	✓

G.8.1 Writers

a) each judge must be allocated a capable writer
b) it is preferable that the same writer is used for the whole competition
c) guidelines for writers are available at www.equestrian.org.au
d) preferred writers for FEI-level Competitions are:
   - first preference to Judge Educators and Mentors
   - second preference to other senior judges eligible to supervise shadow judging (A, B, C or D level)
   - third preference to E-, F-, G-level judges

G.8.2 Scorers and scoring

a) scorers should be allocated a quiet area to work in
b) EA has free scoring software available online, see www.equestrian.org.au
c) EA has a set format for recording of results available online see www.equestrian.org.au
d) all results must be forwarded to the respective state branch within 7 days of the event
e) judges must sign off on the final result sheet
f) results should be posted on organiser websites or distributed to competitors by other means
g) judges must be given a set of results for the competitions they have judged
h) all results of all judges and the overall total must be displayed by percentage to the 3rd decimal point
i) if a rider withdraws prior to a competition, is excused, eliminated or a 'no show' prior to or during the performance of a test, the words 'withdrawn' or 'excused', 'eliminated' or 'no show' or abbreviations must appear after the rider's name on the results sheet

G.8.2.1 Scorers must:

a) double the mark where a coefficient is indicated
b) add the marks in the total column
c) deduct the errors of course and penalties from each judge from the total
d) calculate the percentage by adding the scores of all the judges and dividing the total by the total marks possible. For example, if 3 judges scored 350, 345 and 349 the total = 1044. Total possible marks for the test was 400. Multiply this number (400) by the number of judges (400 x 3) = 1200. Percentage = 1044 ÷1200 x 100% = 87%
e) check additions for errors
f) place results on the scoreboard as soon as possible
g) test sheets are confidential

G.8.2.2 Allocation of marks and scoring

a) all half marks from 0.5 to 9.5 may be used for movements and collective marks, at the discretion of the judge, including Freestyle competitions
b) for Young Horse competitions, and artistic marks in Freestyle competitions marks to 1 decimal place may be used
c) marks are then added together and any penalty marks are deducted
d) it is essential that all penalty marks are deducted from each individual judge's score before they are totalled
e) percentages to the 3rd decimal point for each judge must be clearly shown in results lists and on notice boards, together with the total percentage obtained to 3 decimal places
f) a remark is strongly recommended for a mark of 5 or below
g) a remark for all marks is recommended
h) any alterations to marks must be initialled by the judge in ink

G.8.2.3 Unmarked movements

If a mark has not been recorded and the judge cannot recall the movement, or cannot be found, the mark allotted should be the average of the collective marks at the end.

G.8.3 Stewards and Gear Checkers

It is highly recommended that a Chief Steward is appointed at all dressage events. For more information refer to rule 6.6 and a current list of accredited stewards is available at www.equestrian.org.au It is compulsory to appoint a Steward/s or gear checker/s for all dressage events, refer to rule 6.5.

G.8.4 Technical Delegate (TD)

For detailed information please refer to rule 6.3

G.8.5 Runners

A runner is a person who is given the task of collecting test papers from the judges and other tasks assigned by the OC. They must:

a) collect the completed test sheets from the writers after every two (2) or three (3) ridden tests taking care not to disturb the judge or writer whilst waiting for the sheet
b) take care not to disturb the horse and rider currently competing
c) deliver completed test sheets to the scorers
d) convey information from the Secretary to different stewards or vice versa
e) be prepared to replace arena markers that may have been knocked over

G.8.6 Hosting judges

A judge's host should undertake the following responsibilities:

a) meet judges on arrival
b) have refreshments available on arrival for judges and writers
c) introduce each judge to their writer well ahead of time (at least 10 minutes before starting time)
d) advise the judge who is to act as the TD, Chief Steward or as Ground Jury members
e) advise the judge/writer of their arena number and arena location
f) give judge/writer their folder which includes details of their position on the arena and a final list of competitors and times showing all scratchings
g) advise the judge and writer of arrangements for morning and afternoon tea, and lunch
h) give Chief Judge/writer a bell or whistle if not judging from a car
i) ensure that judges and writers are properly looked after during the coffee and lunch breaks and are treated as guests of the organisers
j) at some time during the day determine each judge's travelling expenses and inform the Treasurer so a cheque is ready on completion of judging. Alternatively, payment made be made direct to the judge's bank account if bank details are provided
k) provide a quiet area, away from the scoreboard, where judges can be given access to a duplicate copy of the full result sheet and individual judges marks for their perusal

G.8.7 Sponsors' host

The person/s allocated to be the host of the event sponsors should:

a) meet sponsors
b) have refreshments available
c) introduce sponsors to organisers
d) make them feel welcome whilst they wait to present their donated award to the recipients

G.8.8 Prize-giving Manager

The person/s allocated to be the prize-giving manager should:

a) be aware of rules 3.19, 3.20 and 8.9, and for FEI-sanctioned events refer to www.fei.org
b) prepare a prize-giving schedule and make it available to competitors, sponsors and the public
c) prepare prizes and prize-giving area
d) have a set of results ready for the presenter
e) be aware that prizes may be presented by the participating sponsors where practicable after a competition, e.g. during the lunch break, at the end of a day or at the end of the whole event

In regards to prize giving, it is recommended that competitors are requested to present in competition attire. It is the OC's decision whether prize giving is to be mounted or unmounted

G.9 The role of organising committees and event convenors

a) OCs are responsible for the overall management and administration of a dressage event.
b) an event convener or event director plans and executes the tasks and functions necessary for an event to take place on behalf of the OC
c) OCs and event conveners must be very familiar with the current EA dressage rules
d) OCs are responsible to their members to run events according to the current dressage rules and should remain transparent at all times

G.9.1 Event p**lanning**

A summary task list for organisers of dressage events is outlined in the table below.

Summary task list

BOOKING DATES/VENUE	By whom	Time frame	Task complete
Select appropriate date/s and type of event (Section 4)	OC		
Book venue (Section 3 and 4)	OC		
THE ORGANISING STUCTURE	**By whom**	**Time frame**	**Task complete**
Appoint event coordinator	OC	> 3 months	
Appoint event organising committee (appoint areas of responsibility)	OC	> 3 months	
Prepare a budget	Treasurer	> 3 months	
Decide on the event schedule	OC	> 3 months	
OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS	**By whom**	**Time frame**	**Task complete**
Book suitably accredited judges (Section 3)	Appointed convenor	> 3 months	
Appoint a Technical Delegate (Section 6)	Event coordinator	> 2 months	
Appeals Committee (Section 6)	Event coordinator	> 1 month	
Chief Steward (Section 6)	Appointed convenor	> 2 months	
Gear Stewards (appoint and roster)	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Scorers (appoint and roster)	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Writers (appoint and roster)	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Test sheet collectors (appoint and roster)	Appointed convener	> 1 month	
Stabling steward (allocate stables)	Appointed convener	> 1 month	
Veterinarian on call	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Farrier on call	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Notify ambulance / local hospital	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	

JUDGES	By whom	Time frame	Task complete
Book suitably accredited judges (refer to the graph section 3)	Appointed convenor	> 3 months	
Confirmation letter to judges (e-mail is OK)	Appointed convenor	> 2 months	
Forward draw to judges	Appointed convenor	> 14 days	
Book accommodation for judges	Appointed convenor	> 14 days	
Judges gifts (not compulsory)	Appointed convenor		
Travel expenses to judges (refer Judges Honorarium form www.equestrian.org.au)	Appointed convenor	at event	
Thank you letters to judges	Appointed convenor	post event	
FINANCIAL	**By whom**	**Time frame**	**Task complete**
Prepare a budget	Treasurer	> 3 months	
Organise prize monies, cash floats, goods in kind	Treasurer	< 2 weeks	
Payments as required	Treasurer	as required	
Prepare invoices for sponsors/exhibitors/advertisers	Treasurer	as required	
Collection of monies during event	Treasurer	as required	
Judges travel and accommodation	Treasurer	at event	
Deposit incoming monies	Treasurer	as required	
ADMINISTRATION/SECRETARIAL	**By whom**	**Time frame**	**Task complete**
Prepare schedule/entry form and conditions, closing date	Appointed convenor	> 3 months	
Distribute entry form to appropriate interested parties	Appointed convenor	> 3 months	
Take entries, send rider/horse/owner EA status for verification to state branch	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Prepare competition plan	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Conduct draw	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Print draw, rider information and post to competitors and judges	Appointed convenor	ASAP after draw	
Organise test papers, boards, pens, bells	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Draw for each judge folder and gear steward	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Cover sheet for judge folders: test number; time; judge's name;	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Scoresheets for scoreboard, score sheets master copy, organise scoring method	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Organise stationery, etc, for event	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Organise First Aid Kit	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Organise event office for enquiries	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Appoint a Technical Delegate (Section 6)	Event coordinator	> 2 months	
Appeals Committee (Section 6)	Event coordinator	> 1 month	
Chief Steward (Section 6)	Appointed convenor	> 2 months	
Gear Stewards (appoint and roster)	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Scorers (appoint and roster)	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Writers (appoint and roster)	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Test sheet collectors (appoint and roster)	Appointed convener	> 1 month	
Stabling steward (allocate stables)	Appointed convener	> 1 month	
Veterinarian on call	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Farrier on call	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Notify ambulance/local hospital	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	

ADMINISTRATION/SECRETARIAL	By whom	Time frame	Task complete
Prepare schedule/entry form and conditions, closing date	Appointed convenor	> 3 months	
Distribute entry form to appropriate interested parties	Appointed convenor	> 3 months	
Take entries, send rider/horse/owner EA status for verification to state branch	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Prepare competition plan	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Conduct draw	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Print draw, rider information and post to competitors and judges	Appointed convenor	ASAP after draw	
Organise test papers, boards, pens, bells	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Draw for each judge folder and gear steward	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Cover sheet for judge folders: test number; time; judge's name; writer's name; arena number, judges position on arena	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Scoresheets for scoreboard, score sheets master copy, organise scoring method	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Organise stationery, etc, for event	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Organise First Aid Kit	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Organise event office for enquiries	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Prepare event operational plan	Appointed convenor	> 1 month	
Prepare risk management plan	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
Rule book on hand	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
SPONSORSHIP	**By whom**	**Time frame**	**Task complete**
Develop sponsorship proposal and budget	Appointed convenor	> 3 months	
Secure cash sponsors and product sponsors (refer event budget)	Appointed convenor	> 1-3 months	
Ongoing correspondence and confirmation	Appointed convenor	> 1-3 months	
Trade stands: send proposals / follow-up	Appointed convenor	> 1-3 months	
Obtain advertising material for official program booklet	Appointed convenor	> 1-3 months	
Sponsor gift packages/thank you letters	Appointed convenor	as required	
Organise raffle prizes and tickets	Appointed convenor	> 1 week	
OPERATIONS/LOGISTICS/VENUE/FIELD OF PLAY			
Communication with venue management	Appointed convenor	as required	
Ground preparation: arenas/marquees/seating set up and pull down	Appointed convenor	as required	
PUBLICITY/MEDIA/PROMOTION			
Organise all publicity, promotion and media	Appointed convenor	as required	
HOSPITALITY			
Arrange catering for judges/writers/other officials/volunteers/public	Appointed convenor	> 1-3 months	
CEREMONIES and PRESENTATIONS			
Order ribbons/rugs	Appointed convenor	> 1-3 months	
Develop presentation schedule	Appointed convenor	> 1-3 months	
Perpetual trophies: find and retrieve	Appointed convenor	> 1-3 months	

Task list for organisers of dressage events

Convenor's responsibility on day of event

a) arrive at least 1 hour before comp start time (if arenas need setting up then arrive earlier)
b) check arenas / markers in place
c) perform risk assessment
d) set up tent and prepare trailer or other scoring venue
e) turn power on/urn on
f) check judges' clipboards/note any scratchings
g) organise Gear Check Steward clipboard with equipment rules and have them and draw steward in place 40 mins before start
h) handle any enquiries from competitors
i) welcome judges/writers, hand out boards, direct to arenas/ advise of catering/toilets, etc
j) be aware some judges may not have a car so have a spare car available
k) put all scoresheets for day on scoreboard
l) be prompt in getting scores on the scoreboard (double check scores by second scorer)
m) be aware of break times, have catering ready
n) ensure judges complete their expenses form, available from SDC
o) have presentation schedule / ribbons / prizes ready for presentation
p) be prompt in finalising scores / presentation 30 mins after all tests finish
q) judges must stay at least 30 minutes after the final results have been posted
r) make a note of non-collected prize monies
s) pull down arenas and clean up

Post event follow up

a) clean up grounds
b) send thank you letters to sponsors
c) send thank you letters to other/helpers
d) retrieve signage
e) send results to EA state branches and SDA
f) follow up outstanding monies and sponsorship
g) return promotional material to sponsors/advertisers
h) refunds reserves, etc
i) follow up outstanding invoices
j) pay all creditors
k) prepare Profit and Loss statement and present to the OC 'wash up' meeting or debrief

Annex H - Categories of National dressage events and Regional and major club championships

H1 Categories of National dressage events

FEI-sanctioned events such as CDIs are conducted under FEI rules and are excluded from this plan.

In order to assist OCs the following tables summarise the recommended criteria for each category of event.

	Regular club events including Official Competitive and Participation competitions	Regional and major Club Championships (to be defined by SDA in calendar)	State Championships	National Championships
Participation	Open to all EA members unless special rules apply e.g. club members only	As per rules determined by OC and approved by SDAs Unrestricted event, held over 2 days unless permission granted to hold over 1 day. *See Annex H2 below	Open to riders who have obtained performances as per National rules	As per National rules for a National Championships, see Section 10 of this rule book Open to horses that exceed148cm without shoes or 149cm with shoes
Competitions/Tests	No restrictions	All tests Official. Nov to GP to be scheduled. Other levels/competitions may be offered e.g. Pony or Young Horse. Two competitions at each EA level required with Champions awarded	All tests Official. Nov to GP. Other levels and competitions may be offered	All tests Official. As per current EA National Championship rules in Section 11 of this rule book Elementary to Grand Prix Special compulsory
Passports/ Identification	EA papers required for Official Competitive as per EA rules	EA papers required	EA papers required	EA papers required
Prize Money/Trophies/Prizes	EA Dressage rule book applies	See rule 3. 19 and 3.20 Prizes, EA Dressage rule book applies. Champion award at each level	EA Dressage rule book applies	EA Dressage rule book applies and rules for Aus Champs

	Regular club events including Official Competitive and Participation competitions	Regional and major Club Championships (to be defined by SDA in calendar)	State Championships	National Championships
Judges	Normal EA rules for judges apply	Normal EA rules for judges apply. OC's encouraged to use D+ judges with some from outside the region (e.g. C/D judges to judge Nov/Elem, etc). If E-level judge used then co- judge must be 2 levels above e.g. C-level judge	Normal EA rules for judges apply. OC's encouraged to use interstate judges of B level and above and also FEI-accredited judges	As per rules for Australian Dressage Championships. To be approved by the EADJC
Appeal Committee	Not compulsory	Event Chief Judge should be nominated by OC and to act as technical assistant and also to resolve judging issues if necessary. See Rule 6.1	Full Appeal Committee required. EA Dressage rule book applies	Full Appeal Committee required. See Rule 6.2.
Technical Delegate (TD)	Highly desirable but not compulsory	Highly recommended but not compulsory	TD required, appointed by SDA and reporting to SDA	TD required, appointed by EADC and reporting to EADC
National steward	Desirable	Highly desirable	Compulsory	Compulsory

	Regular club events including Official Competitive and Participation competitions	Regional and major Club Championships (to be defined by SDA in calendar)	State Championships	National Championships
Gear steward	Compulsory as per rule book	Compulsory as per rule book	Compulsory as per rule book	Compulsory as per rule book
Warm-up arena steward/s	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory
Horse Inspection	Not required	Not required	Not required	Inspection required for GP horses. As per Australian Dressage Championships rules
Calendar	Application to SDA by August each year for following year's calendar	Application to SDA by August each year for following year's calendar	Application to SDA by 1 Sept each year for following year's calendar	Application to EADC by end of February of preceding year
Draft Schedule Approval	Not required	Draft schedule to SDA 6 months prior to event highly recommended but not compulsory	Draft schedule to SDA	Draft schedule to EADC 6 months prior to event
Program and Results	Results to be recorded on EA software (or EA compatible software) and uploaded onto a website. Uploaded onto National database ASAP and also send to SDA	Results to be recorded on EA software (or EA compatible software) and uploaded onto a website. Uploaded onto National database ASAP and also send to SDA	Results to be recorded on EA software (or EA compatible software) and uploaded onto a website. Uploaded onto National database ASAP and also	Results to be recorded on EA software (or EA compatible software) and uploaded onto a website. Uploaded onto National database ASAP and also send to SDA
Stable security	Not compulsory	Not compulsory	Not compulsory	Not compulsory
Stable requirements	Not compulsory	Not compulsory	Each state to determine a minimum number which meets all of their requirements for state	Stables available on competition grounds to accommodate 90% of horses entered

	Regular club events including Official Competitive and Participation competitions	Regional and major Club Championships (to be defined by SDA in calendar)	State Championships	National Championships
Arenas	Sand preferred or other suitable surfaces (soft grass). Best conditions possible for horses taking into account weather conditions Arena surrounds. EA Dressage rule book applies.	At least 1 sand arena is recommended Other arenas sand preferred or other suitable surfaces (soft grass) so that arenas are the best possible, taking into account weather conditions. Arena surrounds. EA Dressage rule book applies.	Preferably 3 to 4 sand arenas. Must include 1 for warm-up. Each state to determine suitability of grounds Arena surrounds. EA Dressage rule book applies.	Minimum of 4 sand arenas required and one sand warm-up arena Arena surrounds. EA Dressage rule book applies.
Camping	Truck and float parking required. Camping facilities not compulsory	Truck and float parking required. Camping facilities not compulsory	Camping sites should be available on the ground with access to power, water and	Camping sites for up to 80 campers, incl access to power, water and amenities
Catering	Not compulsory	Not compulsory	To be provided on the competition grounds from start of competition	To be provided on the competition grounds from start of the competition
First Aid	Highly desirable	Highly desirable	Highly desirable	Compulsory

H2 Regional and major club championships – To be defined by the SDA in the calendar process

For regional and major club competition where it is a championship event, the following applies:

a) there must be two tests at each EA level
b) competitors must compete in both tests at level to be eligible for champion points
c) there must be at least two judges for each competition
d) champions must be awarded at each level. Championships are decided on points with all horses ranked in each of the two tests. First placed horses will get 35 points, second will get 34 points, third will get 33 points and so on to the last placed horse
e) the Champion is the horse with the highest combined points of the two tests
f) in the event of a tie, the Champion will be the horse with the highest aggregate percentage at that level
g) in the event of a further tie, the horse with the highest percentage in the higher competition at that level will be deemed the Champion
h) EA Rule Book (Prizes) apply, Refer rule 3.20. It is recommended to award a trophy or at least a sash for the Champion