



Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee - UPDATE

Meeting held: 22 April 2023

Below is a summary of proceedings at the recent EADC/SDA meeting

MEETING DISCUSSION

Welcome

Attendees welcomed and new personnel noted since previous EADC/SDA meeting.

New EADC members; joining the committee this year Kerrie Swan-Bates, Lisa Baker and recently co-opted Aengus Wright.

Stepping down of Veronica Hamann as DSA chair. Newly appointed chair Cheryl Hatswell.

Thanked State Chair representatives, stepping in for SDA Chair's who were unable to attend.

AOR

Discussion and sharing of how AOR is running in the different states. Generally speaking, running well in majority of States where the division is run.

Issues raised around intent and timelines around the following 2 criteria.

- d) the rider may not receive payment for coaching
- 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 week up to and including the event.

The purpose of the division is to highlight and **reward non-professional riders. Recognising riders who only ride and train** their own horses and who are obliged to earn an income to support their sport outside of riding and training horses.

Discussion around the time frame a rider should not be receiving payment for equestrian activities (such as coaching) and still be eligible for AOR status. Agreement for the EADC to work with the SDA's and develop a requirement for AOR riders to declare 'intent to participate in AOR' for a 12-month period, agreeing to abide by the criteria for implementation in 2024.

Discussion around 'periodic ridden assistance'. Difficult to define and regulate. Purpose to enable riders the option of gaining assistance from time-to-time if required, but not misusing its intent and 'periodic' being regular assistance, and not being within the intended nature of the division.

Downgrading

Discussion regarding Downgrading rules. Majority happy for downgrading rules to remain as they are, with a veterinary component to be included. Veterinary reasons not being grounds for downgrading. EADC to look at inclusion in 2024 rules.

Performance Medal Model

Discussion regarding new performance medal model (implementation for 2024 medals) and suggestions on the number of events for consideration.

Agreement on the qualification scores based on data analysis, medal being awarded to scores being gained by top 3% of riders.

EADC to work further on the details of the model and seek SDA input on specific events.

Rules

Summary of 1 July 2023 rule changes were tabled. Reviewed and discussed as necessary. EADC to finalise and seek EA Board approval, before publishing.

Steward Courses Update

Dressage Steward General gave a report on what has been happening with Stewards training in the lead up to 2024.

Currently 80 stewards nationally with 22 Stewards currently in training and courses being run or organised in states for further steward training over the coming months.

Also working on a para-equestrian component to the course.

EADOC Update

EADOC Chair reported on initiative to bring State JSC's/Task Force Chairs together for the opportunity to provide general feedback to the EADOC and raise issues. Well received. Also, meeting being held for JE's nationally - to run through training scale and collection and the delivery in seminars in May.

Next EADC/SDA Meeting

Saturday 12 August 2023 (Full day)