



Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee - UPDATE

Meeting held: 2 October 2021
Below is a summary of proceedings at the recent EADC/SDA meeting

MEETING DISCUSSION

Events/Calendar

State events to be added to the National Calendar

- TAS State Championship 5/6 March
- SA State Championships 9/10 April
- NT State Championships 21/21 August

FEI Calendar Applications/CDI's/WEG Qualifications

- Awaiting advice from FEI on what they will accept in terms of international judges for these events

Pacific League

- Negotiations continue with FEI allowing PAL athletes to qualify in the WEL 2021- 22 season
- PAL NF's will be conducting an urgent review of the FEI PAL League World Cup Rules and submitting proposed changes to the FEI for consideration

Size Matters Working Group Update

Draft Horse Capacity to Size of Athlete Guide tabled.

- Information shared with Dressage NZ, very well received and wanting to be included in future discussions/developments
- In the process of finalising document
- Next step, strategy on how to release
- KER have agreed to supply coaches with weigh tapes

Horse/Pony Measuring

Measuring information on the database

Measure height and expiry date of the certificate is now available through the search function on the EA website.

Pony Measuring Rules

EA Pony measurement system being used in place of FEI Pony Measurement System and reasons why:

- Horse measures rounded down in the way the FEI measure

- We have worked hard to gain approval for the EA system and is working well nationally
- 2 measuring systems would be confusing
- 2022, FEI are moving closer to the actual measure height and moving away from rounding (FEI Vet Regs)

EA NDC Appointment & Procedure Policy - EADC Appointments

EADC Committee Panel

EADC Committee Panel for reviewing and making recommendations to the EA Board for appointment to the EADC is made up of 3 x State Dressage Association (SDA) Chairs. Agreement, SDA chairs from States with no committee nominees to form the panel when possible. Panel formed annually following receipt of EADC EOI's.

Dressage Athlete Representative

Updated EA NDC Appointment and Procedures Policy tabled, outlining the new appointment process for Athlete Representatives.

- Call for EOI's, open for 30 days
- Election via an online vote opportunity to members with Dressage as their primary interest.
- If only one EOI is received, appointment is via the EADC
- EOI's will be called for mid-late October

Helmet Tagging

Helmet Tagging in Dressage - roll out introductory phase to commence in first half of 2022, to become mandatory as of 1 July 2022

Important points from discussions held:

- EA standards do not mandate replacement after 5 years (Manufacturers do recommend replacement of helmets older than 5 years however, that is not an EA requirement, onus is on the rider)
- Helmet taggers are only checking compliance of the helmet against EA Standards, not condition, age or any other factors. *An approved helmet is one that meets the EA Standards.*
- The colour of the tag will only change if EA Standards change
- If helmets are being tagged at an outlet/franchise (eg. Horseland) this must be done by an approved EA Tagger
- Does the Helmet Tagger need to be an EA member? Being an EA member is preferred, however it is understood some OC members are not EA members and can be looked at on a case-by-case basis.
- Helmet taggers page set up on the EA website to identify events where taggers will be for athletes to have helmets tagged.

SDA's will now investigate how helmet tagging would work best in their State and seek appropriate personnel and forward names to EA.

Helmet Tagging education to be worked on with Judges & Stewards.

Judge re-accreditation

Concern raised about judges being able to meet requirements for re-accreditation by February 2022.

- Confirmed rule changes in 2021 enabled theory part to be done online and judges have had since 2018 to complete the judging requirements.
- Two (May/Aug 21) communications had been sent to SDA's/JSC's advising requirements of 6 competitions with 2 at the highest level since 2018 and period ending March 2022.
- If there are particular problems, JSC's to liaise directly with the EADOC and consideration will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

National Integrity Framework

Issue raised of the difficulties volunteers are faced with when they are asked to mediate and pass judgement on judging colleagues and friends. Often conflict of interests and there are no clear penalties for particular conducts.

SDA's are to review procedures in place with National Disciplinary ByLaws with their State Branches - Disciplinary Policies can be found - <https://www.equestrian.org.au/policies>

National Integrity Framework which has recently been adopted by the EA Board, will be rolled out shortly and will assist with the complaints process.

Performance Gold Medals

Performance Gold Medals would normally be presented at the 2021 Australian Dressage Championships, however due to cancellation, alternative arrangements have been put in place. Letter will be sent to recipients congratulating them on their achievements and advising their State Dressage Committee will be presenting the Medals at an appropriate event on the EADC's behalf over the next few months (Dec/Jan).

Para-Equestrian Panel

The Para-Equestrian Panel is now up and running, members - Dani Fraillon (Chair), Sally Francis OAM, Lisa Baker, Anna Muldoon.

Horse ID Numbers

Issue raised regarding the difficulty in reading Horse ID Numbers due to their size on the bridle.

EADC to produce recommendations on Horse ID Number size and location for ease of identification purposes.

Reports Tabled

Dressage Chief Steward
EADOC
State Reports

Next EA Dressage Committee Meeting – Tuesday 23 November 2021