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# Equestrian Australia Driving Committee - UPDATE

Meeting held: 10 October 2022

Below is a summary of proceedings at the recent EA Driving Committee meeting

## MEETING DISCUSSION

### EA Driving Rules

Rules changes for 2023:

- **12.0 Dress**

#### 12.1 Drive-1 and Drive-2 Classes

a) Dress for all on the carriage should be neat, tidy, sun-safe, and should conform to the style of the carriage and harness used.

b) Shorts are not acceptable for anyone on the carriage.

c) Jackets are not compulsory, especially in hot and humid weather.

d) EA accredited helmets are compulsory for all on the carriage, at any time. Helmets are to be EA tagged from 1 July 2022. Refer [Annex 9](#)

e) A back/body protector (as per EA standards ~~–BETA Level 3~~) is compulsory for anyone on the carriage under the age of 18 years.

f) Body/back protectors of any level are encouraged for those 18 and over, on a carriage.

g) If a competitor wishes to wear an air vest it must be worn over the top of a body/back protector and not on its own, where a body/back protector is compulsory. Body protectors are compulsory for Marathon. A body protector manufactured after 2009 and labelled as complying to one of the following standards is mandatory:

- EN13158:2009 Level 3
- BETA 2009 Level 3
- EN13158:2018 Level 3
- BETA 2018 Level 3
- **An accredited Level TWO body protector of any of the standards listed above, but ONLY WHERE IT IS DESIGNED SPECIFICALLY FOR CARRIAGE DRIVERS and labelled as such.**

h) Aprons are optional for Drive-1 and Drive-2.

- i) Gloves should be worn by everyone on the carriage. Failure of the Athlete and/or the Navigator/Backstepper/s to wear gloves will result in deductions.
- j) There must be a whip on the carriage, but there is no deduction for not using it in Drive-1 and Drive-2 classes. Failure to have a whip on the carriage will incur a penalty.

- Dressage Judge Fast Track added an a fast-track option
- Include TD Pathway matrix

All to be submitted to EA Board for approval.

### **ORBT's**

Development well underway for Judge ORBT. Need additional questions and photos of TD and CD ORBT's. Progress to continue.

### **Backstepper Competency**

Discussion on how best to assess Backstepper Competency. Further investigation and options to be discussed next meeting.

### **National Driving Championships**

View to looking at introducing in 2024, pending development of events.

### **Athlete Commission Update**

Athlete Commission to be made up of EA elected discipline Athlete Representatives and the EA Board Athlete Director. Once the EA Athlete Director tenure is complete, the new EA Board Athlete Director will be elected from within the EA Athlete Commission members.

### **Next Meeting**

19 December 2022