

## Equestrian Australia Equipment Annex

In conjunction with Section 5 of the Current Equestrian Australia Dressage Rules, the Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee seeks to provide the following information for clarification of permitted and non-permitted equipment for **all dressage competition**. This document is not intended to imply approval if the target item of equipment is not listed. The Dressage Rules provide clear guidelines as to the equipment permitted. Wherever possible, the EADC is guided by rulings from the EADC and FEI Equipment Committees.

For additional equipment queries, please do not hesitate to fill in the query application form ([found here](#)) or for information please do not hesitate to contact the Equestrian Australia National office [karen.myers@equestrian.org.au](mailto:karen.myers@equestrian.org.au)






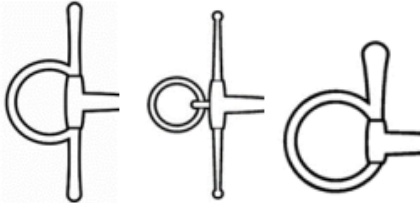









*This document will be updated as required.*








**Version 20 – Updated: 10 September 2022, Effective 1 January 2023**















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Section 1	BIT RINGS/CHEEKS (refer EA dressage rules 5.11)	STATUS
Hanging Cheek/Baucher		✓
Hanging Cheek with rotating arms/mouthpiece		✗ Elimination
Hanging cheek with cheek piece attached to the mouthpiece and a loose ring		✗ Elimination
Small Cheeks (There are no maximum or minimum sizes for the length of cheeks for snaffles.)		✓
Eggbutt Cheeks		✓
Variant of Eggbutt cheeks	 INSERT VARIAT OF EGGBUTT CHEEKS	✓
Loose ring		✓
Loose Ring with sleeve fitted around part of the ring		✓













Full cheek with extra rings		 Elimination
Shaped sleeved Cheeks	 	 Elimination
Full cheek / Fulmer / Upper Cheek		
D-ring		
Various gag cheeks		 Elimination
Myler (or similar) Cheeks for use With hooks		 Elimination
Bevel Bit/Cheeks		 Elimination





Section 2	BITS /MOUTHPIECES	STATUS
Ported Unjointed bit		✓
Mullen Mouth		✓
Flexible Mullen Mouth		✓
Double Jointed Snaffle		✓
Single jointed Snaffle (including lock up)		✓ Lock up snaffle <b>must not</b> to be used with a double bridle
Bits with a control plate as centre link		✗ Elimination
Cable double Jointed.		✓ <b>Must not</b> be used with a double bridle

Cable Single Jointed		 <b>Must not be used</b> with a double bridle
Ported barrel		
B-ring snaffle		 Elimination
Dr Bristol		 Elimination
Mouthpiece with rotating middle piece		
Elliptical central joint		
Turtle Top Snaffle		

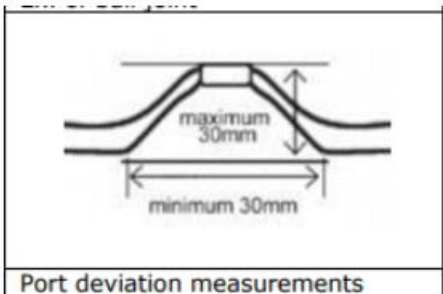
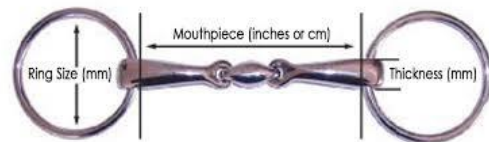



Example of non-rigid bit		 Elimination
Myler permitted Snaffles		
Jointed bit with ball		
Pinchless Snaffle (central joint must have rounded edges)		 Elimination
Happy Mouth Straight bar (Bits must have a smooth surface.)		 Elimination
Beris Mullen Straight bar (Bits must have a smooth surface.)		 Elimination
Mouthpiece with holes (Bits must have a smooth surface.)	INSERT MOUTH PIECE WITH HOLES – FEI pg 30 	 Elimination



Flexible Mullen Straight bar with lip guards		 Elimination
Plastic covered Weymouth		
Curb with downward height deviation (The deviation may be forward but not downwards)		 Elimination
Weymouth (largest and smallest ports illustrated). (Refer to measuring bits section below)		
Jointed, rotating mouthpiece on a curb (The rules do not allow for a jointed curb or a curb with rotation in the mouthpiece.)		 Elimination
Curb bits with a ported/tilted mouthpiece. (The deviation may be forward but not downwards)		

Curb chain clasp (Curb chain hooks can be fixed or not fixed.)		
Various mouthpieces not permitted		 Elimination
Bits with interference on the rings		 Elimination
Coloured Bits		 Two mark deduction
Bit guards		 Elimination
Bit clips on ergonomic bridles		 Elimination



<p>Measuring Bits for maximum deviation (top image)</p>	 <p>Port deviation measurements</p>	<p>Maximum height = 30mm Minimum width = 30mm</p>
<p>Measuring diameter of bits (bottom image)</p>		
<p>Additions to bit (Bits may only be covered with rubber or latex.)</p>		<p>✗ Elimination</p>
<p>Bit Tape to cover the mouthpiece (latex or rubber)</p>		<p>✓</p>
<p>Bit Tape to create a bit guard</p>		<p>✗ Elimination</p>

## Section 3

## BRIDLES & NOSEBANDS

## STATUS

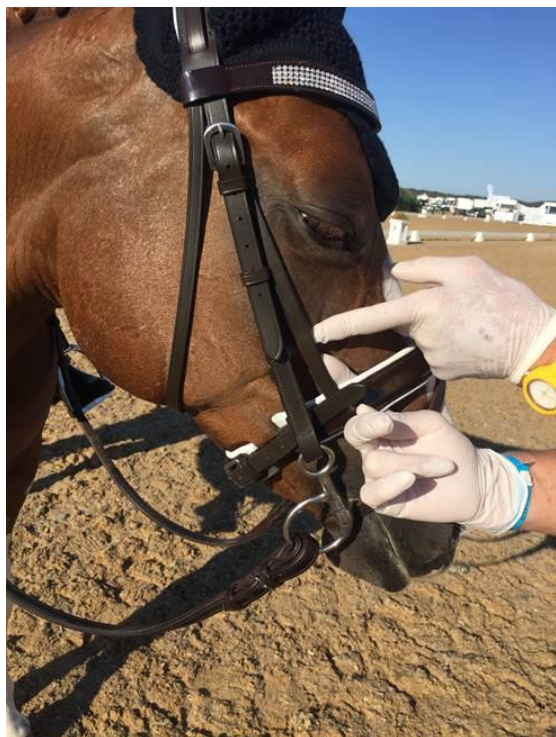
### ALL BRIDLES MUST HAVE A THROAT LASH

#### Equestrian Australian Dressage Committee Statement

The Equestrian Australian Dressage Committee (EADC) wishes to reiterate that **welfare of the horse is paramount** in all that it does, whether developing rules for the sport or in training of its dressage stewards and judges – an active on-going program.

Nosebands that are too tightly fitted regardless of type are never acceptable. Nosebands must never be used in such a way that they interfere with a horse's breathing. Riders failing to loosen a noseband on request from a steward or judge will be **eliminated**.





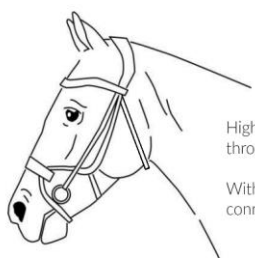
- Noseband checking is done by a steward. It must be possible to place at least **one** finger between the horse's cheek and the noseband. *See illustration below.*
- Nosebands can be checked prior to or after the completion of a test
- Not all nosebands are required to be checked, if a visual assessment confirms that the noseband is **not** too tight.
- During a test if the Judge believes a noseband is too tight, they must at the end of the test instruct the rider to return to the gear check. The Steward must report back to the judge after checking the noseband.
- When checking bridle/noseband the steward must wear two clean disposable gloves
- The checking of the bridle/noseband must be done with the greatest caution, as some horses are very touchy and sensitive. Stewards must keep in mind that the safety and welfare of the horse and the Athlete are our highest priority and concern!
- The execution of adjustment of equipment must be done by the rider or the groom and **not** the steward.
- If the noseband is deemed too tight by a steward in warm up and is not loosened when requested a Yellow Warning Card will be issued.

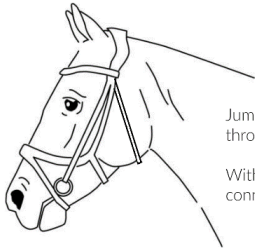







*Measuring a cavason noseban*



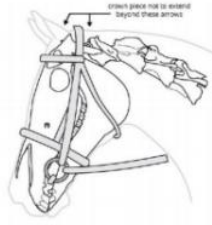











*Measuring a flash or drop  
noseband 1*

Bridles with anatomical/padded headpiece		✓
PS of Sweden noseband (with throat lash)		✓
PS of Sweden Nirak (with Throat lash)		✓
PS Of Sweden Noseband, (with Throat Lash)	<p>PS of Sweden Noseband, only used WITH throat latch</p> 	✓
PS of Sweden High Jump Bridle	 <p>High Jump bridle with throat latch. Without elastic connections to the bit</p>	✓






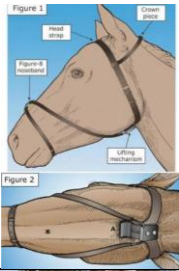





PS of Sweden Jump Off Bridle	 <p>Jump Off bridle with throat latch.</p> <p>Without elastic connections to the bit</p>	✓
PS of Sweden (Elastic Concept)	<p><b>Elastic Concept for rein and cheek piece by PS of Sweden</b></p> <p>Here we have attached a durable and strong elastic band that is attached to the leather. The elastic touches <b>NEVER</b> the bit. The elastic helps the bit to be a little bit flexible and more dynamic in the mouth.</p> <p>Elastic is placed up here on the cheek piece and is hidden under the keeper.</p> <p>Leather</p> <p>Leather</p> <p>The bit will only and always be in contact with leather, never anything else.</p>  <p>PS of Sweden, 7th of March 2017</p>	✓
Bridles with D Rings at the Poll	 	✓
Tota Comfort system noseband	 	✓





<p>Noseband with metal sliding system attached to cheek piece Except for buckles and padding the headstall and noseband must be entirely of leather or leather-like material.</p>		 <p>Elimination</p>
<p>Stubben Snaffle Bridle 2500 Freedom</p>	 <p>Crown piece may not extend beyond the two arrows</p> 	
<p>Passier Fortuna Double Bridle (Elastic Insert in Neckband, under Browband)</p>	 	
<p>Bridle with double throat lash</p>		 <p>Elimination</p>
<p>Micklem Bridle</p>		
















St Zaum Bridle May be used with a double bridle if the lower strap of the nose band is removed.		
Dyon X-Fit Anatomic		
Dyon Double		 Elimination
Added Padding on Bridle		 Elimination














Blinkers of any type, including wool padding on cheek piece			 Elimination
Double Cavesson Noseband			 Elimination
Cornell Collar			 Elimination
Three way noseband			 Elimination
Elastic Reins			 Elimination

<p>Reins with hand stoppers (considered a gadget)</p>			 <p><b>Elimination</b></p>
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Section 4	COMPETITION WEAR	STATUS
Bright colours such as red, orange, pink, yellow, lime green, and wide contrast stripes and multi-coloured jackets and coats are not permitted. (Examples shown)	 	 Two mark deduction
Top hats are not permitted at any level		 Elimination
Mirrored Helmets (dark reflective helmets are permitted)		 Two mark deduction
Sleeveless Riding Jackets	  	
Coloured riding boots		 Two mark deduction













Full length laced boots		
Full Length Zipped Boots with Coloured Piping		 Two mark deduction
Embossing /decoration at the top of the Top Boot <b>only</b> is permitted but must be in the same colour scheme as the boot. The same applies to the cantle of the saddle.	 	
Boots can be of smooth or smooth embossed surface. A neat and discrete zip on the outside area of the boot/chap is permitted.	  	
Coloured piping is permitted if it matches the piping on the Riding Jacket & or saddle	  	




<p>Large buckles at the ankle of the boot are considered a safety issue and are not allowed</p>		 <p>Elimination</p>
<p>Riding boots <b>must</b> have heels</p>		











Section 5	SADDLES AND STIRRUPS	STATUS
*Stock Saddles *Western Saddles *Jumping Saddles *Iberian Saddles not illustrated		 Elimination
Stirrups & leathers must be fitted to the outside saddle flap		
Magnetic Stirrups		 Elimination
Coloured & rainbow Stirrups		 Two mark deduction
Velcro straps to Stirrups		 Elimination
Step-up Stirrups		 Elimination





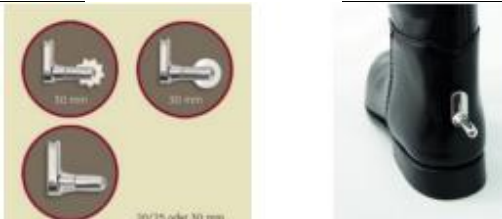













<p>Safety Stirrups are allowed <b>open branch</b> on the Inside or outside of the stirrup is permitted</p>		
<p>Other examples of Safety Stirrups permitted</p>		

Section 6	ADDITIONAL EQUIPMENT & ACCESSORIES			
Ear bonnet/hoods but, must not be attached to the noseband (no additional insulation & no ear plugs allowed)				
Tight fitting Head cover or Titanium hoods				 Elimination
Fly Masks				 Elimination
Nose net				 (only permitted with an EADC exemption)
Body bandage or similar. (Spur pad/protection)				 Elimination
Electronic devices / headsets				 Permitted in warm-up only

Kinesiology Tape (not permitted in competition)		 Elimination
Exercise sheets		 Although permitted in warm-up
Arabian Martingale (not allowed on grounds)		 Elimination

Section 7	HORSE BOOTS / SHOES		STATUS
Boots or Bandages that cover the hoof			 Elimination
Glu on Shu's			 Elimination
Polyurethane shoes			
Hoof boots			 Warm-up only
Nailed or Glued shoes (must not cover more of the hoof wall than that of a nailed shoe. Bulbs of the heel & full circumference of coronary band must be visible)			

Section 8	SPURS	STATUS
Spurs with a Rowel in the Vertical Plane (must be blunt)		✓
Sharp Segmented Rowel Spurs		✗ Elimination
Spurs with rowels in the horizontal (must be blunt & smooth)		✓
Swan Neck Spurs (Fitted as illustrated)		✓
Smart Clix Spurs		✓
Soft Touch Spurs		✓
Coloured Spurs		✗ Two mark deduction
Hard plastic Spurs		✓
Spurs without a shank		✓

Spurs with side rowels		 Elimination
Bent Shank on Spurs		 Elimination
Spursuader Spurs		 Elimination
Spurs with extension at the back	 	 Elimination