

**Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee – Summary of Rule Changes**  
**(For implementation 1 JANUARY 2026)**

Rule	Heading	Justification	Revised Rule
Page 7	PREAMBLE	Missing from current rules	Add back to preamble:  These Rules & Regulations cannot be used either in principle, in whole, or in part for the judging of Competition unless the Organising Committee or body is affiliated to Equestrian Australia.
1.3	Abuse of the horse	Aligning with FEI Rule direction	j) It is strictly forbidden to use any type of substance/product <b>inside or around</b> the Horse's <b>mouth</b> and/or <b>tongue</b> that may (i) <b>imitate, induce or cause foaming</b> ; and/or (ii) <b>coat</b> or otherwise <b>cover</b> , or <b>partially cover the bit</b> . The prohibition excludes the use of products permitted in the FEI Tack App and the provision of permitted natural treats given in moderation. Contravening this rule will entail a Yellow Warning Card and Elimination.
1.3.1	General Conditions - Reporting of Abuse	Clarification for the procedures for reporting abuse.	<b>1.3.1 Reporting of Abuse</b> Anyone witnessing an incident of abuse must report it <del>in writing the form of a written protest (see EA General Regulations Article 163) in confidence</del> to the OC immediately who will refer the matter <del>without delay</del> to officials at the event with the appropriate time and authority to deal with it or, if such officials are not available, <del>14 days</del> to the State <del>CEO Branch</del> <b>authority</b> to initiate action.  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.
1.6.6	Protests, reports, appeals, Yellow Warning Cards and Recorded Warning Cards	Correction	1.6.6 One (1) or more <del>Yellow Recorded</del> Warning Cards. Should the same Person Responsible receive one (1) or more Yellow Warning Card(s) for any offence at the same or any other Event (Australian or International) within 12 months of the date of issue of the first Yellow Warning Card, the matter shall be referred to the State Branch CEO who shall determine whether to refer the Person Responsible to a Judicial Committee.
1.8.2 c)	People may not officiate as a judge of a competition if	Clarification	Proposed Wording: c) they have given <del>or ridden in</del> a riding clinic within 2 weeks prior to the event and a rider, coach or horse who has participated in that clinic will be in the competition
1.9	General Conditions - Minimum Medical Requirements	Health & Safety Update	<b>As per EA Health and Safety Minimum Medical Requirements Policy.</b>

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3.7 e)	Entering the arena	For consistency with FEI rules	e) After the sound of the bell, the Athlete must enter the arena at A within forty five (45) seconds. <del>After the bell has sounded, the competitor must enter the arena at A as soon as possible</del>
3.14	Called tests	Updated conditions for test callers	<b>3.14 Called Tests</b> d) headsets/ ear phones are not permitted
4.6	Types of competitions at Official events	Increase level of participation to include Elementary	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 <del>Novice</del> <b>Elementary</b> 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 <del>Section 11</del> Para-Equestrian dressage rules for further details on Para dressage.
4.7	Types of competitions at Restricted Events	Clarify of the requirements for Closed events	4.7 Types of competitions at <b>Closed</b> Restricted events Clubs affiliated with their EA State Branch may hold restricted events and <b>training activities</b> : a) <b>Closed restricted (CR)</b> competitions are open to the conducting club's members only may include any level of EA test from Preparatory to Grand Prix and Para-Equestrian. b) <del>Closed un-restricted (CUR) competitions are open to may also include club CUR competitions</del> club <b>members</b> and invited EA members (i.e. riders who are not members of the host club). CUR competitions to a maximum level of <b>Elementary</b> <del>Participation competition up to and including the current Novice</del> tests and all Para-Equestrian tests c) EA Dressage Rules apply to these events as per General Regulations Art 100 d) horse registration refer 4.8. e) restricted competitions can only be conducted by current EA Club Affiliates d) closed events do not require approval from the State Dressage Authority and may be conducted at any time in conjunction with any other type (e.g. Official Competitive) e) appointment of judges is at the club's discretion, however accredited judges are encouraged f) All closed events do not attract grading points g) Saddlery & Equipment as per EA Dressage rules h) appointment of an accredited steward is encouraged i) First aid minimum medical requirements, as per EA general regulations & policies.

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			Refer 4.8 for more details
<b><u>Move</u></b> <b><u>4.11</u></b> <b><u>to</u></b> <b><u>4.8.2</u></b>	<b>Conditions of Entry for Participation Competitions</b>	Better flow of rules	<p><del>4.11</del> <b>4.8.2 Conditions of Entry for Participation Competitions</b></p> <p><i>For riders wishing to compete in Participation level competitions:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) refer to the EA General Regulation for membership requirements</li> <li>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</li> <li>c) one rider per horse is permitted at any event</li> <li>d) please refer to your state authority in relation to state-specific membership requirements</li> <li>e) refer to the EA General Regulations for any horse/pony registration requirements</li> <li>f) there is no restriction on the height of the horse/pony</li> <li>g) if a horse/pony is graded, it may only compete at its graded level or higher, or HC at a lower level</li> <li>h) a horse/pony may only be entered and compete once in each competition</li> <li>i) <b>grading points are not accrued or recorded</b></li> <li>j) <b>Participation results are not eligible for qualifying for state/national championships</b></li> </ul>

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4.8.3.2	Eligibility of horses, ponies and combinations for each level	Clarification of conditions for exemptions at FEI level	<table><tr><td>Prix St Georges , Intermediate I or Young Rider tests #</td><td>Combinations must have achieved 60% or above on two (2) occasions in Official Advanced competitions to be eligible to compete PSG/ Intermediate I or FEI Young Rider tests. <u>In the event that the qualifying competitions are held at the one event, they must be judged by a different panel of judges</u></td></tr><tr><td>Intermediate A and B OR Intermediate II/U25 Intermediate II #</td><td>Combinations must have gained at least 60% or above on two (2) occasions in an Official Intermediate I competition to compete in Intermediate A and B or Intermediate II/U25 Intermediate II. <u>In the event that these scores are achieved at one event, they must be judged by a different panel of judges</u></td></tr><tr><td>EA Grand Prix, including U25 Grand Prix #</td><td>Combinations must have gained at least 60% or above on two (2) occasions in Official Intermediate A/B or Intermediate II competitions to be eligible to compete at Grand Prix and U25 Grand Prix.</td></tr><tr><td>FEI National Competitions #</td><td>Under exceptional circumstances, High Performance riders on suitably experienced horses may apply to the EADC to waive qualification scores.</td></tr></table> <p>* Riders/owners please note – minimum requirements to ensure standard of the event. There is no upper limit to the grading of the horse/pony. Children/Junior/Youth/Pony tests are judged based on the capability and skill of the rider and harmonious presentation of the test. (*Please refer to the FEI website: <a href="https://inside.fei.org/fei/your-role/organisers/dressage/tests">https://inside.fei.org/fei/your-role/organisers/dressage/tests</a>)</p> <p><del># For a new combination where the horse is graded FEI, the combination will be exempt from the requirement to compete in two tests at Advanced level before competing at either Prix St Georges, Intermediate I, or Young Rider (Small Tour) Level.</del></p> <p><del># For a new combination where the horse is graded FEI, the following applies: The new combination will be exempt from the prerequisites to compete at the desired FEI level (Small Tour, Medium Tour, Big Tour) if the horse and rider each has two performances of 60% or higher at the respective level or higher in the previous two (2)-year period.</del></p>	Prix St Georges , Intermediate I or Young Rider tests #	Combinations must have achieved 60% or above on two (2) occasions in Official Advanced competitions to be eligible to compete PSG/ Intermediate I or FEI Young Rider tests. <u>In the event that the qualifying competitions are held at the one event, they must be judged by a different panel of judges</u>	Intermediate A and B OR Intermediate II/U25 Intermediate II #	Combinations must have gained at least 60% or above on two (2) occasions in an Official Intermediate I competition to compete in Intermediate A and B or Intermediate II/U25 Intermediate II. <u>In the event that these scores are achieved at one event, they must be judged by a different panel of judges</u>	EA Grand Prix, including U25 Grand Prix #	Combinations must have gained at least 60% or above on two (2) occasions in Official Intermediate A/B or Intermediate II competitions to be eligible to compete at Grand Prix and U25 Grand Prix.	FEI National Competitions #	Under exceptional circumstances, High Performance riders on suitably experienced horses may apply to the EADC to waive qualification scores.
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FEI National Competitions #	Under exceptional circumstances, High Performance riders on suitably experienced horses may apply to the EADC to waive qualification scores.										
4.9	Upgrading Points	Clarification	<p>Rule 4.9</p> <p><del>d) Horses/ponies that gain 40 upgrading points at levels higher than their current grading will be upgraded to the next consecutive level. The exception is a horse/pony needs at least 30 upgrading points to upgrade from Advanced to FEI.</del></p> <p><del>Refer 4.8.3.2 table for more details</del></p> <p><del>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</del></p>								

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			<div>upgraded to Elementary). A horse/pony needs at least 30 upgrading points to upgrade from Medium to Advanced.</div> <div>Rule 4.9 (e) delete. A horse/pony can only be upgraded one level at a time.</div>			
5.5	Spurs	Alignment with FEI rules	<div>5.5 Spurs</div> <div>Riders please note:</div> <div>a) spurs may be worn by all competitors</div> <div>b) spurs must be identical on both sides, i.e., they must be a pair</div> <div>c) spurs must be made of metal or hard plastic</div> <div>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</div> <div>e) the tip of the shank must not point up or point inwards. Swan neck spurs are permitted</div> <div>f) the arms of the spur must be smooth</div> <div>g) if disc rowels are used, they must be blunt &amp; smooth (no sharp edges) and free to rotate. Daisy rowels, tines, notched, serrated edges are not permitted</div> <div>h) disc rowels may be in a vertical or horizontal plane</div> <div>i) soft touch spurs with a rolling ball on either plane are permitted</div> <div>j) 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. NOTE: for FEI CDIP competitions, spurs no longer than 3.5cm are permitted &amp; spurs with rowels are not allowed</div> <div>k) there is no maximum length of spurs for riders of horses</div> <div>l) metal spurs with hard plastic knobs are permitted</div> <div>m) dummy spurs with no shank are permitted</div> <div>n) Impulse spurs are permitted</div> <div>o) non-compliance or incorrect spurs will entail elimination For further information regarding spurs, please see the current Dressage equipment on the EA website (<a href="http://www.equestrian.org.au/dressage-rules">http://www.equestrian.org.au/dressage-rules</a>)</div>			
5.8 (g) and Table 5.1.1	Jackets and coats and Dress per level table	Clarification to rule 5.8 (g) and correction to Table 5.1.1	<div>Rule 5.8 g) for all EA levels and non-CDI FEI levels, wearing a coat is optional if the rider feels overheated</div> <div>Table 5.1.1 Dress per level table</div> <table><tr><td></td><td>Hat</td><td>Coat</td></tr></table>		Hat	Coat
	Hat	Coat				

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				Up to Medium level	Safety helmet as in 5.2	Short coat as per 5.8 Riders may ride without jackets if feeling overheated.	
				Advanced level		Short coat or tailcoat as per 5.8 Riders may ride without jackets if feeling overheated.	
				FEI Levels Prix St Georges – Grand Prix		Short coat or tailcoat, - colour as per FEI rules see 5.8 For non-CDI competitions Riders may ride without jackets if feeling overheated. See FEI rules for CDI competitions regarding wearing of jackets.	

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5.10	Saddles and saddlecloths	Change Side Saddle to Participation classes only	<p>b) In Participation events ONLY, a jumping saddle and English style side saddles are permitted <del>English style side saddles are permitted</del></p> <p>c) <del>In Participation events ONLY, a jumping saddle is permitted</del></p>								
5.12	Table of equipment permitted/not permitted	Update on electronic communication devices	<p>Electronic communication devices, including mobile phones, are not permitted while riders are in the competition arena</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Earphones (one ear only) or similar devices</td><td></td><td>X</td><td></td></tr> <tr> <td>Electronic communication devices, including mobile phones, are not permitted while <u>horse</u> and <u>rider</u> are in the competition arena</td><td></td><td>X</td><td></td></tr> </table>	Earphones (one ear only) or similar devices		X		Electronic communication devices, including mobile phones, are not permitted while <u>horse</u> and <u>rider</u> are in the competition arena		X	
Earphones (one ear only) or similar devices		X									
Electronic communication devices, including mobile phones, are not permitted while <u>horse</u> and <u>rider</u> are in the competition arena		X									
5.16	Over-boots/Hoof boots	Clarification	<p>c) glued-on shoes <b>are permitted</b> <del>cannot cover any more of the hoof than</del> <b>but the hoof must remain visible where nails would normally be visible</b>, and shoes be made of clear material. <del>so the hoof is visible, and</del> <b>The</b> bulbs of the heel and full circumference of coronary band must be clearly visible</p>								
5.18	Exemption Cards and riders with a disability	Updated conditions for test callers	<p>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. Test calling in young Horse competitions will be permitted for riders with the appropriate exemption card. <b>If caller/commander exemptions are granted, no headset will be permitted.</b></p> <p>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 11 for further information</p>								
5.19	Gear Check List	Update on electronic communication devices	<p><b>5.19 - Additional Gear</b> - Running martingale, bandages, brushing boots, over-boots, double bridle (Medium level and above), saddle covers, earphones (one ear only) <b>and electronic communication devices (e.g. mobile phones) – Warm-up area only</b></p>								

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Section  
n 8  
Freest  
yles –  
8.11

Table for Marking  
Omissions and  
Incorrect Execution  
in Freestyles

Recently  
updated FEI  
directive

FEI TESTS		Movement Permitted?	Final Technical Mark	Choreography	Degree of Difficulty
INT	Combination half pass - canter pirouette	Permitted			
	Canter pirouette from/to halt, walk, in addition to required pirouette	Permitted			
INT	Examples of. movements of a HIGHER LEVEL – if deliberately shown:				
	Flying changes in sequence of 1 tempi, piaffe, passage		No mark possible	Max 5.5	Max 5.5
INT	EXCEEDING requirements deliberately, regardless of any other correct execution:				
	Clearly more than a full pirouette (360°) in canter		Below 5	Max 5.5	Max 5.5
INT	Execution deliberately NOT ACCORDING TO RULES; Applies only if movement/pace has not been shown correctly at least 1x:				
	Full canter pirouette not min. 1x from/into canter		Below 5	Max 5.5	Max 5.5
	Walk executed on 2 tracks (as shoulder-in/half pass)				
	Extended trot only on circle line or through 2 corners				
INT	Execution deliberately + clearly BELOW REQUIREMENTS; Applies only if movement has not been shown correctly at least 1x:				
	Canter half-pirouette (180°) instead of full pirouette (360°)		Below 5	Appropriate	Diminished
	Deliberately not enough changes in a required sequence				
<del>INT</del> <del>A/R</del>	<del>Piaffe in fan pirouette only and no other correct piaffe shown</del>		<del>Below 5</del>	<del>Max 5.5</del>	<del>Max 5.5</del>
GP	Piaffe pirouette in addition to a straight piaffe	Permitted		Judged as piaffe	
	Passage half pass in addition to a straight passage	Permitted		Judged as passage	
	Canter pirouettes max. 2x 360° continuously	Permitted		Judged as 1 movement	
	Canter pirouette from/to halt, walk, in addition to required pirouette	Permitted		Judged as pirouette	
	Combination half pass - canter pirouette (max. 2x)	Permitted			
GP	EXCEEDING requirements deliberately, regardless of any other correct execution:				
	Clearly more than a double (2X 360°) canter pirouette		Below 5	Max 5.5	Max 5.5
GP	Execution deliberately NOT ACCORDING TO RULES; Applies only if movement/pace has not been shown correctly at least 1x:				
	Piaffe only shown as a pirouette		Below 5	Max 5.5	Max 5.5
	Passage only shown as a half pass				
	Full canter pirouette not min. 1x from and into canter				
	Walk executed on 2 tracks (as shoulder-in/half pass)				
	Extended trot only on circle line or through 2 corners				
GP	Execution deliberately + clearly BELOW REQUIREMENTS; Applies only if movement has not been shown correctly at least 1x:				
	Canter half-pirouette (180°) instead of full pirouette (360°)		Below 5	Appropriate	Diminished
	Deliberately not enough changes in a required sequence				

MESSAGE RULES

8

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Section 8 Freestyles – 8.12	EA Levels – Compulsory/Permitted/Not Permitted movements for Freestyles	Recently updated FEI directive	MOVEMENT	FEI Ponies		FEI Juniors		FEI Young Rider		FEI Intermediate I		FEI Compulsory
				Compulsory	Not Permitted	Compulsory	Not Permitted	Compulsory	Not Permitted	Compulsory	Not Permitted	
			CANTER continued									
			Single flying change of leg – left-right, right- left		x	✓			Permitted			
			Flying change of leg every 4th stride		x		x	✓ min 5				
			Flying change of leg every 3rd stride		x		x	✓ min 5		✓ min 5		
			Flying change of leg every 2nd stride		x		x		x	✓ min 5		✓ n
			Flying change of leg every stride		x		x		x		x	✓ n
			Half-Pass – left and right		x	✓	Only 1 counter change	✓	Counter changes permitted	✓		
			Half Pass in Passage		x		x		x		x	
			Half-Pirouette – left & right		x		x	✓				
			Single Pirouette – left and right		x		x		x	✓		
			Double pirouette – left right		x		x		x		x	
			Triple Pirouette		x		x		x		x	
			Passage – min 15m on one track		x		x		x		x	
			Piaffe 8-10 straight steps		x		x		x		x	
			Piaffe – min 10 straight steps		x		x		x		x	
			Piaffe – half pirouette – left and/ or right		x		x		x		x	
			Transitions in and out of piaffe (from walk, or trot or passage)		x		x		x		x	
			Piaffe/Passage/Piaffe or Passage/ Piaffe/Passage in a continuous sequence		x		x		x		x	

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<b>10.1 a)</b>	<b>Australian Dressage Championships - Administration</b>	Change from 6 months to 4 months as per EADC	a) a draft schedule must be submitted to the EADC for approval at least <del>four (4) 6</del> months prior to the event
<b>10.2 d)</b>	<b>Conditions of entry</b>	Revision of qualifying scores	d) Novice qualifying scores – at least 68%, (Pony <del>67% 66%</del> ) Elementary qualifying scores – at least 65% (Pony <del>65% 64%</del> )
<b>10.12. 1 a)</b>	<b>Other Australian Championships</b>	Change from 6 months to 4 months as per EADC	a) the draft schedule is to be forwarded to the EADC for approval at least <del>four (4) six</del> months prior to the event
<b>Section 12 – 12.8.1 b), c), &amp; d)</b>	<b>General conditions to maintain accreditation current</b>	As per EADOC recommendations	<p>12.8.1 Compulsory conditions to maintain accreditation These requirements are compulsory and are to be achieved over a period of 3 years:</p> <p>a) attend a seminar at least every 3 years at their level as per rule 12.18 (NOTE: F-level judges may attend a G-level seminar, and G-level judges may attend an F/E level seminar to maintain their accreditation)</p> <p><b>b) each seminar will consist of three (3) parts:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1. Theory session – (This can be via an online platform in a separate session or face-to-face in a one-day seminar)</b></li> <li><b>2. Practical session – must be face to face (either at a competition or stand-alone specific event)</b></li> <li><b>3. Obtaining 80% pass in relevant module Quiz (generated certificate to be sent to seminar coordinator).</b> NOTE: The certificate can be used again at any subsequent seminars within the three (3) year accreditation cycle as an RPL (Recognition of Prior Learning) for the module</li> </ol> <p><b>c) The same Judge Educator must present both theory and practical if theory is conducted via online platform.</b></p> <p><b>d) All parts must be attended/completed to receive a certificate for accreditation</b></p>

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12.8.1 d) & e)		As per EADOC recommenda- tions	<p>d) <b>For F level to A level judges (Judge 12 competitions total excluding freestyles):-</b></p> <p>i. Judge 6 Official Competitive competitions at their judging level, i.e. F at Novice, E at Elementary, D at Medium, C – at Advanced, B at PSG or Inter I, A at Inter A to GP. (for F level and E level judges only, Interschool, Eventing (providing the EA Eventing Officials judges table is used– Chapter 4, EA Eventing rules) or Official Participation competitions can be counted – 2 in total.</p> <p>ii. Judge 6 other competitions at any level up to their highest level (these can be Official Competitive, Official Participation, Restricted Participation, Young Rider, Pony, AHRC, Eventing or Interschool (providing the Officials judges table is used)</p> <p>e) <b>G level judges only:- Judge 6 competitions total – Includes Official Preliminary, Official Participation / Restricted Club events , Interschool and Eventing (providing the EA Eventing Officials judges table is used – Chapter 4, EA Eventing rules).</b></p>																																
Section 12	12.9	Requirements for judges to remain accredited	<table><tr><th>Current level</th><th>G</th><th>F</th><th>E</th><th>D</th><th>C</th><th>B</th><th>A</th></tr><tr><td colspan="8">Compulsory every 3 years</td></tr><tr><td>Judges Reaccreditation form to be completed <u>at</u> 1st April every third year with proof of completed and marked ORBT at 90% or higher.</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td></tr><tr><td>Must attend and participate/ <b>complete all 3 components of at least one (1)</b> EA-approved <u>judges</u> seminar at your level at least every 3 years (F level may use a G-level seminar for this purpose and G level can use an F/E seminar for this purpose).</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td><td>✓</td></tr></table>	Current level	G	F	E	D	C	B	A	Compulsory every 3 years								Judges Reaccreditation form to be completed <u>at</u> 1st April every third year with proof of completed and marked ORBT at 90% or higher.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Must attend and participate/ <b>complete all 3 components of at least one (1)</b> EA-approved <u>judges</u> seminar at your level at least every 3 years (F level may use a G-level seminar for this purpose and G level can use an F/E seminar for this purpose).	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Current level	G	F	E	D	C	B	A																												
Compulsory every 3 years																																			
Judges Reaccreditation form to be completed <u>at</u> 1st April every third year with proof of completed and marked ORBT at 90% or higher.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓																												
Must attend and participate/ <b>complete all 3 components of at least one (1)</b> EA-approved <u>judges</u> seminar at your level at least every 3 years (F level may use a G-level seminar for this purpose and G level can use an F/E seminar for this purpose).	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓																												

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			Completed over the 3-year-period F to A Judges	G	F	E	D	C	B	A
			<p>Minimum Judging Requirements, excluding Freestyles  <b>(Judge 12 competitions total):</b> Judge 6 Official competitions at your accredited level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• F at Novice</li> <li>• <u>E</u> at Elementary</li> <li>• D at Medium</li> <li>• C at Advanced</li> <li>• B at PSG or Inter I</li> <li>• A at Inter A to GP (may substitute a SJ at GP or Inter II)</li> </ul> <p>Young Horse - judge at least 1 YH competition  <b>PLUS</b> judge 6 other competitions up to and including your level  (refer to rule <b>12.8.1d) &amp; e)</b></p>	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>12.17</b>	<b>Shadow judging and assessed sit-ins</b>	As per EADOC recommendations	<p>e) shadow judging and sit-ins may be done at the same event. If the same Judge Educator/Mentor is used the shadow judging must be done before the assessed sit-in. However, if different Judge Educators/Mentors are used then there is no restriction on what is done first</p> <p><b>f) National judges are not permitted to sit in on the field of play at a CDI for a sit in or Shadow judge. They may do a sit in or shadow judge with a National FEI judge outside the field of play (on the sidelines)</b></p> <p><b>g) <del>f</del></b> in principle, the requirements for sit-ins could be met at a single event providing two different Judge Educators/Mentors are used</p> <p><b>h) <del>g</del></b> rule 12.11 details the entire number of competitions required for shadow judging and the requirement for assessed sit-ins</p> <p><b>i) <del>h</del></b> for privacy of competitors, shadow judging test sheets are to be destroyed once they have been discussed by the candidate and supervising judge</p> <p><b>j) <del>i</del></b> it is the responsibility of the Judge Educator/Mentor to give honest assessment of the candidate's progress in preparation for the practical examination</p> <p><b>k) <del>j</del></b> shadow judging must be with 2 different judge educators/mentors</p> <p><b>l) <del>k</del></b> details of shadow judging payment to Judge Educators and Mentors can be found in Annex I (see main rulebook)</p>							

**Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee – Summary of Rule Changes**  
**(For implementation 1 JANUARY 2026)**

Section 12 - 12.17.2	Appointment of Mentors	As per EADOC recommendations	12.17.2 b) SDAs may invite suitably qualified A, B, C or D level judges. <del>Existing D level judges shall maintain their accreditation as a Mentor</del>
Section 12 - Section 12.13.3	EA Dressage Judges and Steward in Australia - Training of Para Equestrian Judge Educators	Correction	a) be an accredited A level judge, an EA Judge Educator and/OR an FEI accredited Para-Equestrian Judge

**Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee – Summary of Rule Changes**  
**(For implementation 1 JANUARY 2026)**

Annex E		Update	<b>Annex E:</b> 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, earphones (one ear only), – or similar devices, <b>electronic communication devices (e.g. mobile phones)</b>																																																						
Annex I	Payment to Judge Educators, Steward Educators and/or Mentors	Update due to the increased number of candidates and requirements, resulting in Judge Educators experiencing an increased workload	<p><i>Change the below highlighted amounts from \$30 to \$50</i></p> <p><b>Payment to Judge Educators, Steward Educators and/or Mentors</b></p> <p>The following fees are payable by the SDA:</p> <table><tr><th></th><th>Seminar – per day</th><th>Marking F to A &amp; YH Theory Exams – per candidate</th><th>Marking F to A Practical Exams</th><th>Marking YH practical Exams</th><th>Shadow Judging</th><th>Official Sit-In (as per 12.17.h)</th><th>Protocol Sessionper hr/max</th><th>Mileage per km/max mileage</th></tr><tr><td>Judge Educator</td><td>\$300</td><td>\$30</td><td>\$75</td><td>\$50</td><td>\$30</td><td>\$30</td><td></td><td>75c/\$350</td></tr><tr><td>Steward Educator</td><td>\$300</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>75c/\$350</td></tr><tr><td>Steward Educator Assistant</td><td>\$150</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>75c/\$350</td></tr><tr><td>Mentor</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>\$30</td><td>\$30</td><td></td><td>75c/\$350</td></tr><tr><td>Judges</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>See i) below</td><td></td></tr></table>		Seminar – per day	Marking F to A & YH Theory Exams – per candidate	Marking F to A Practical Exams	Marking YH practical Exams	Shadow Judging	Official Sit-In (as per 12.17.h)	Protocol Sessionper hr/max	Mileage per km/max mileage	Judge Educator	\$300	\$30	\$75	\$50	\$30	\$30		75c/\$350	Steward Educator	\$300							75c/\$350	Steward Educator Assistant	\$150							75c/\$350	Mentor					\$30	\$30		75c/\$350	Judges							See i) below	
	Seminar – per day	Marking F to A & YH Theory Exams – per candidate	Marking F to A Practical Exams	Marking YH practical Exams	Shadow Judging	Official Sit-In (as per 12.17.h)	Protocol Sessionper hr/max	Mileage per km/max mileage																																																	
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