

The following information is provided by the Australian Dressage Judges Committee (ADJC) to assist those judges going through the upgrading process to know the process and what to expect when undertaking the theory and practical exams.

The Theory Exam Process

- All judges who are upgrading or in some instances judges returning from a period of leave of absence are required to sit a theory exam
- There is a separate theory exam paper for:
 - F - Novice
 - E - Elementary
 - E- Fast track to Elementary
 - D - Medium
 - D - Fast track to Medium
 - C - Advanced
 - B – Small Tour
 - A - Medium & Big Tour
- The time limit for each theory paper is 2.5 hours
- All candidates must have their theory exam supervised
- The theory exam consists of the following:
 - Rules and Event structure – these are multiple choice and short answer questions
 - Theory – biggest section
 - Freestyle – excluding the Novice & Elementary papers, however there may be one or two small freestyle questions in the both papers
- The theory section is where you will be asked questions about the training scale and various movements at the level of the exam e.g. Elementary exam will include questions on the movements at Elementary level
 - Candidates need to read Section 7 of the rule book
 - Candidates also need to refer to the FEI Dressage Judges Handbook
 - The E Fast Track theory paper also includes question on the movements Novice movements
 - The D Fast Track theory paper also includes questions on the Novice and Elementary movements
- There is short Freestyle section in all theory exam papers except Novice
 - Candidates need to refer to Section 6 of the rule book

The Practical Exam Process

- **ALL Pre Requisites must be completed and verified before the practical exam can be attempted**
- Candidates need to contact their State Judges Sub Committee (JSC) to arrange for the practical exam to be completed
- You will be required to judge a minimum number of horses in the practical exam – refer to rule 11.27
- The Examining Judge will be a Judge Educator appointed by the JSC for F to C and the ADJC for the A and B exams
- Tests sheets are assessed by the Examining Judge along the following lines:
 - At the completion of the competition, the examiner will meet briefly with the candidate/s to discuss the sheets - this will give the candidate/s some initial feedback
 - The examiner will take all the sheets away and conduct a thorough assessment based on the criteria below
 - The final assessment will be accompanied by a spreadsheet and a brief written report
- The following will be taken into account:
 - Differences of 1.5 or more marks
 - Discrepancies of 8% (5% for FEI tests) or more in the total marks
 - Ranking differences based on number of horses in the competition
 - Omission of mark or course error
 - Omission of comment for mark of 5 or below
 - The use of inappropriate comments throughout