

Summary of Business of the meeting of the Australian Dressage Committee Sunday 10 January 2016

Fundraising for the Development of Dressage in Australia in the quadrennial post Rio OG

The ADC spent the morning half of the meeting discussing strategies for fundraising for development for Australian Dressage in the next quadrennial after Rio OG. Judy Fasher EA Board Chair and Liza Craver Board member attended the meeting as well as Deb Carr professional philanthropic fundraiser.

Several actions came out of the meeting and these ideas will be further developed over the next 2016 meetings and by tel. conferencing. In particular dressage is keen to be able to use the tax deductible advantages of the Australian Sports Foundation Funds. Progress will be reported in future meeting summaries.

HP Update to RIO

Chris Webb, HPM and Julia Battams the Dressage/PE National Performance Director were in attendance. An in depth report of the RIO planning was given for both dressage and Para Equestrian for travel plans and staging camps.

It is most likely that all Australian equestrian teams and Para Equestrian will travel from Europe base to RIO and back. This is the most efficient in terms of quarantine costs. European Selection competitions have been named.

For dressage the team will be named on 4 July 2016 after the results of the two European selection CDIs for the final 8 competitors. The final 8 combinations will be announced after Sydney CDI in 7-9 April 2016

Progress on Elementary competition for Participation membership

The EA Board set up an advisory committee comprised of Branch CEOs and other key stakeholders. Based on the final report for that committee, the Board will be discussing this issue in February.

Olympic Format for Dressage, Eventing and Jumping post Rio.

Judy Fasher asked the ADC to discuss the options presented by the FEI and also that

meetings be held with riders in order for all to be informed.

The deadline for submission is end of February 2016. The FEI will discuss at its Sports Forum at the beginning of April 2016 and the final decision will be made by the 2016 FEI GA Assembly in the second half of the year.

Riders are encouraged to go to FEI website and put in their own submissions.

Equipment Clarifications

The ADC is presented with many, many queries about whether equipment, especially bits, nosebands, and boots and coats are legal.

Please note that the EA equipment webpages have been updated:

<http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/Dressage%20equipment%20annex%20V9.pdf>

A form for queries about equipment is located at

http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/Application_to_Dressage_Equipment_Committee.pdf

ADC Gold Performance Medals

It has been clarified that Australians who are based overseas may also apply for these with accompanying evidence of performance.

The medals will be presented at the National Championships SIEC.

The ADC has agreed on the same standards to be applied for all levels and information will appear in next couple of months on the EA website.

Optional Snaffles for Advanced to GP

The ADC discussed this matter at some length and will also consult with the State Dressage Committees on this matter as to their views. Any change would not be applied until 1.1.17. The ADC is leaning towards making double bridles non-mandatory.

National Riders Rep Report -Denise Rogan

Denise gave a full report on the meeting held at the Australian Dressage

Championships in October 2016. The ADC discussed the matter raised at that meeting of the AOR and CDI competitors and decided to leave the rules as they are.

Lowering of Age of Riders for Official Competitions

The ADC has made a decision in principle to lower the age of Pony riders from 10 to 8 and for horse riders from 12 to 10. Once again this is matter which the ADC will seek feedback from the State Dressage Committees. Any change would apply from 1.1.17

Downgrading of Novice Ponies

After the ADC meeting the ADC agreed in principle to permitting all Ponies which are graded Novice to be downgraded to Preliminary with 15 Upgrading points allotted. Ponies must have a height certificate. This is in the interests of "school master" Novice ponies being able to be used by very young riders in Preliminary official competitions and also Interschool competitions. Once again the State Dressage Committees will be consulted before a final decision is made. Any application would be from 1.1.17.

Freestyle – Technical and Artistic marks Judge

In order to assist riders, the ADC wishes to mandate that technical and artistic marks for freestyles must be displayed on all interim and final results.

Education matters- Eventing Dressage- G level judges

Eventing NSW is conducting a pilot program to develop more G level judges and also to increase their knowledge of the context of Eventing sport – cross country /jumping as well as dressage. The ADC and ADJC support this program as the dressage program will be conducted by a Dressage Judge Educator thus making the candidates eligible for the NOAS dressage judge stream and a pathway to upgrade and further their career in the Eventing judge accreditation.

These G judges also could be available to judge at normal dressage events.

Australian Youth (10-25) Championships

The ADC has agreed to structure the Australian Young Rider Championships in a

consistent way especially in relation to the program of classes. Currently these Championships circulate between Victoria, NSW and Queensland on a three year cycle. It is vital that these championships serve the future of dressage in Australia by providing a consistent basis for comparison of standard of performance at all FEI levels, provide an aspirational feeder into senior competition and a pathway/goal for aspiring youth riders in an inclusive way.

In particular all FEI test from Pony, Junior, and Young Rider will be scheduled (including Freestyles) and two programs will be available for 22-25 year old riders – the PSG/Int I/ Int I Freestyle) and the U-25 tour of Int II/U-25 GP/GP Freestyle.

This new format will be in place for the 2016 Australian Youth Championships to be conducted by DNSW 1-3 July 2016 at SIEC. [Entries close on 25 May 2016.](#) The schedule will be available shortly at www.dressagensw.com.au

Australian Dressage Championships 2016 ("Nationals")

The Australian Dressage Championships will be held once again at SIEC on 20-23 October 2016. An independent website is being developed.

Syndication of Ownership of Dressage Horses

The ADC continues to work on this issue with the view to developing a brochure similar to successful examples in equestrian sport (especially eventing and jumping) in dressage in UK and USA and also of course racing.

Advisory Panel for Para Equestrian

Equestrian Australia has formed an Advisory Panel for Para Equestrian whose job it is to identify pathways for riders to come from RDA, Interschool, Pony Club and other organisations to join Para Equestrian riders to increase participation in the sport. This Panel was announced at Boneo Park CDIPE. Members are still to be invited and more information will follow shortly.

Next Meetings 2016

ADC 15 May
ADJC 19 August
SDA-ADC 20 August
(all rule changes for 2017)
ADC 21 August

Mary Seefried

Chair – Australian Dressage Committee.