

Summary of Business of the meeting of the Australian Dressage Committee Sydney - Sunday 21 August 2016

High Performance Report

Julia Battams provided a written report on progress related to High Performance matters. The ADC believes the move towards State and National squad collaboration was excellent and beneficial to the team culture of dressage in Australia and will assist in developing the pathway that leads towards international competition.

The committee agreed to the percentage increases for all HP Squads as recommended in Julia's report.

Proposed Rule Changes for 2017.

At the meeting with the State Dressage Authorities held on the Saturday 21 August, the ADC finalised the list of proposed changes to the dressage rules to be effective from 1.1.17. The State Dressage Committees had been provided with the list in June 2016 and had had some time to discuss with their members.

These changes once approved by the Board will be put up on the EA website.

The Rulebook is also being edited for redundancies and formatting and will be available with marked up changes by mid November 2016 on the website.

The major changes will set a new platform for dressage in Australia.

Double bridles not mandatory for Advanced to all FEI levels run nationally (will still be needed for FEI competitions at FEI sanctioned events where required).

Safety helmets are now mandatory for all EA competitions when mounted outside or inside the arena. This includes all EA FEI level tests and all ages. The helmets will need to meet the EA approved standards.

The minimum age for riders has been changed – 8 years for riders of ponies and 10 years for riders of horses.

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 and are updated **regularly**.

<http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/Dressage%20equipment%20annex%20Version%2011.pdf>

A form for queries about equipment is located at [http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/Application to Dressage Equipment Committee.pdf](http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/Application%20to%20Dressage%20Equipment%20Committee.pdf)

ADC Gold Performance Medals

The ADC gold performance medals will be awarded at the 2016 Australian Dressage Championships on Saturday 22 October. Winners have come from three states – NSW, Queensland and Tasmania.

AAOR National Championships 2017

The inaugural AAOR Australian Championships will be conducted in Queensland at the State Equestrian Centre Caboolture.

Yellow Card- Warning system for dressage

The ADC has approved a policy for introduction of a yellow card system for dressage in 2017.

The Yellow Card will be available for instances of Abuse to Horses and for Incorrect/ Inappropriate Behaviour- for example towards an official. The yellow card system will be similar to what is available at FEI level sports and also nationally for jumping and eventing.

ADJC Report

Kim Thomas provided a written report to the ADC. Constitutionally Kim Thomas must step down as Chair in 2017. The ADC thanked her very warmly for all that she has done for the sport of dressage and judged education in particular through her years of chairmanship of the ADJC (not to mention her years on the ADC)

New EA tests 2018.

Early in the new year the ADC/EA will commence the process of developing the tests for 2018. ADC agreed to continue to use the USA tests. They will be available before the end of 2017 so that riders and clubs can familiarise themselves.

FEI World Cup Pacific League Final 2017-18

Note that the 2016/17 Final will be held in New Zealand on 3-5 February 2017.

The 2017-18 WDC Pacific League Final has been awarded to Boneo Parl and will be held in January 2018.

Dressage Stewards nationally accredited- Chief Steward

ADC urges each state to conduct a steward's clinic either in 2017 if they have not already done so.

Please contact Cathie Drury –Klein to arrange for a accrediting seminar in your state. Trained stewards are essential to assist in supporting the welfare of the horse at all official competitions.

The ADC has made a decision that as from 1.1.2017 a Chief Steward will need to be appointed for each Australian and State Championships. The appointed Chief Steward will need to be as a minimum a nationally accredited Steward.

ADC and ADJC elections

Elections will need to be held for both the ADC and ADJC.

Kerry Mack and Sue Cunningham, whilst eligible to re-stand have decided to not do so. The ADC thanks them warmly for their service to the sport. This means that there are three vacancies for the ADC as Mary Seefried is also obliged to reapply.

The application form is available at

<http://www.equestrian.org.au/news/calling-2017-18-nominations-adc>

and closes on 28 October 2016

Applications for the ADJC are available at

<http://www.equestrian.org.au/news/calling-2017-nominations-adjc>

They close on 6 November.

Next Meeting 2017

ADJC 10 February

ADC 11 February

Mary Seefried: Chair – Australian Dressage Committee