



Memo to Australian Dressage Stewards, Gear Checkers & Dressage Clubs August 1, 2020

Resuming Dressage Competitions post and during the Covid-19 pandemic.

These notes are to assist Accredited Dressage Stewards, Gear Checkers & Dressage Clubs in resuming duties at dressage events across Australia post and during the pandemic. The notes below have been approved by the EADC.

Please send these requirements to Event Organisers once you have been invited to officiate as a Steward.

Social Distancing regulations must be followed as per current state health regulations/guidelines

- Please refer to your own States with regards to specific State regulations and the return to Equestrian competition and activities

All Stewards & Gear Checkers are requested to complete COVID Safe Sport Coaches & Officials Certification (this will only take 30 minutes of your time and some organisers may request certificate of completion) <https://www.openlearning.com/courses/covid-safe-sport-coach-certification/>

Organising Committees (OC) are to provide

- Club Covid-19 safety plan to stewards prior to event
- hand sanitiser at Stewards workplace
- a separate copy of the draw for each Steward/Gear Checker (no sharing of folder, pens or draws).
 - Where a changeover of stewards/Gear Checkers during the day occurs, a new folder and draw must be supplied
- a sufficient number of gloves, and they must be a good fit & quality for Stewards
- Stewards with refreshments in takeaway containers or, if served in a different environment social distancing rules must apply
- Stabling, camping, parking plans
- It is highly desirable that Organising Committees use Accredited Stewards and are advised not to roster riders nor unqualified Gear Checkers at events

Stewards

- Preferably have two stewards working together at events
- Stewards (Gear Checkers) should be rostered for a minimum half day or preferably full days.
- Stewards must remain 1.5m from riders and/or grooms and other persons

- Stewards are responsible for maintaining flow of horses at the Gear Check area to prevent horses from lining up and crowding
- Stewards are responsible for keeping any member of the public away from the Gear Check area (utilising the current Distancing rules 1.5m)
- Gear Check may take place prior to, or after, a combination has competed
- **Accredited Stewards should only make a visual inspection of Equipment until further notice. (If Gear Checkers are used they must identify the horse only and check it off the draw. They must **not** act as an accredited Steward)**
 - If incorrect gear is sighted it must be reported to the C judge (with photos)
 - Where a bit may appear incorrect, the horse and rider should be escorted back to their stable/tie up area for a closer inspection (photos should be taken)
 - Any sighting of blood must follow current EA Dressage Rules
 - If a noseband appears too tight during the visual inspection, the Steward must ask for it to be loosened
 - Whips may be measured where necessary using appropriate precautions
 - Do not allow sharing of equipment such a whips!
- Stewards must use hand sanitizer between each horse inspection
- Where touching equipment or horses is warranted, Stewards must wear a new set (one per hand) of disposable gloves per horse & hand sanitise before and after
 - Gloves must be put on and removed as per health & Covid-19 guidelines.
 - Gloves must be disposed of and placed in a secure garbage bin with a lid
- Face masks are optional but, must follow government regulations

- WARM-UP arenas (based on 20m x 60m), limit to a maximum of eight horses (40 minutes per horse) at any one time to allow Social distancing
- Riders should endeavour to maintain three horse lengths from other competitors whilst using the warm-up
- The warm-up must be supervised by an Official (steward, OC member) at all times, to maintain appropriate horse numbers and Social distancing
- STABLING
 - Most hired venues will have stable requirements and Covid-19 safety rules
 - These rules are to be supplied to stewards prior to the event
 - Stable allocations to be supplied to stewards
- CAMPING (where allowed)
 - Plan & contact details to be supplied to stewards
- PARKING
 - Maps/plans to be supplied to stewards

If you require further confirmation on these recommendations please contact.

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*Please stay safe everyone as we progress through this unusual situation! Do not take risks!
Do not attend events if you are unwell or have Covid-19 symptoms!*