

## **NEW RULES EFFECTIVE FROM JANUARY 2009**

### **COMBINED TRAINING AND HORSE TRIALS RULES**

**Add new rule CT/HT 2.3** – It is strongly recommended that a body protector be worn for the cross country phase of all official Horse Trials events.

### **SHOW JUMPING RULES**

**Amend SJ 38 – Table A – Table of Penalties:**

First Disobedience: 4 penalties

Second disobedience: 8 penalties

First disobedience plus knocking down an obstacle: 4 penalties plus 6 seconds

Second disobedience plus knocking down an obstacle: 8 penalties plus 6 seconds

**Amend SJ rule 42 Table C – Table of Penalties**

First disobedience & knocking down an obstacle – 6 seconds

Second disobedience & knocking down an obstacle – 6 seconds

**Amend SJ rule 3.12** to read '...ear muffs, ear plugs and hoods are not allowed...'

### **EVENT RULES**

**New Event Rule 3.4** - At events which include Dressage, the organising committee is required to provide each officiating Dressage Judge with a copy of the competition draw no less than 5 days (where possible) prior to the competition to ensure that Dressage rules 4.8 and 4.9 are complied with.

**Amend Event Rule 21 – Medical levy** increased to \$5.

**New Event Rule re Show Jumping - 23.6.4** One of the points-earning classes must have a first round which is not against the clock. It may have a time allowed and a time limit (eg: AM3, AM7). Competitions with a fixed time but where the objective is to jump as many fences as possible are considered to be against the clock (eg: Top Score).

**Appendix 6 & Appendix 7 – Standard Entry form and Teams Entry form** – remove reference to Werribee Park levy and amend to read 'facility fee'

### **DRESSAGE RULES**

**Rule 13.3** Delete 'A commander must not repeat a call.'

Insert 'A commander may read each movement once or twice only.'

Delete 10.3,10.4,10.5,10.6,10.7 and replace with the following:

#### **10.3 Bridles**

**10.3.1** A snaffle bridle is compulsory for all tests up to and including level 2. A snaffle bridle is an English-type bridle with a single snaffle-type bit and one set of reins. See rule 11 for description of snaffle bits.

**10.3.2** Advanced and level 1 combinations have the option of using a bridle with a snaffle bit or a double bridle. A double bridle is an English-type bridle with a bridoon (snaffle) bit and a curb bit with curb chain, both fitted with a set of reins.

- 10.4 Bit guards and cheekers are not permitted
- 10.5 Wrapping of bits is not permitted
- 10.6 A Pelham bit is not permitted in any dressage test

#### 10.7 Nosebands

Nosebands are illustrated on Plate 4.

10.7.1 The following nosebands may be used on a snaffle bridle:

- . dropped noseband
- . cavesson noseband
- . flash (or Hanoverian) noseband
- . crossed (Grackle or Mexican) noseband

10.7.2 Only a cavesson noseband shall be used with a double bridle.

10.7.3 Nosebands must never be so tightly fixed as to harm the horse. Officials should not loosen the noseband but request the rider to do so. If the rider refuses and the Official thinks the noseband is still too tight, the Ground Jury should be approached to make a ruling. Padding under the noseband is permitted as long as it is securely attached.

#### Amend rule 11 to read as follows:

##### 11. Snaffle Bits

11.1 Only snaffle bits having the following features are approved for Dressage. Snaffle bits shall be comprised of:

- . metal
- . metal and rubber (bits made only of rubber or rubber and chain not permitted)
- . metal and synthetic material
- . rigid plastic

Snaffle bits and bridoons made only of metal must meet the following:

- . all parts of the bit coming into the horse's mouth must be of metal (not necessarily the same metal)
- . the minimum diameter of the mouthpiece is 10mm
- . mouthpieces may be the same thickness or tapered towards the centre or central joints
- . there shall not be more than two joints in the mouthpiece
- . double jointed mouthpieces may have one 'roller', or rotating middle piece, in the centre section.

Multiple 'rollers' are not permitted.

. all parts coming into the horse's mouth shall be rounded, smoother and not ridged, sharp or corrugated.

. the rein must be free to move on the bit ring and must not be fixed to any secondary ring or 'hook'. Keeping within the definition above, some of the types of bits permitted are described and illustrated in Plates 1 and 2. Also permitted but not illustrated are

- . half moon – port mouthed – curved
- . rubber or synthetic bit – both jointed and unjointed
- . sweet iron bit

##### 11.2 Add heading 'Permitted bits. Various snaffle bits'

##### 12. Double Bridle

12.1 A Bridoon must comply with the following:

- . must be made of metal or rigid plastic and may be covered with rubber (bits made only of rubber or rubber and chain not permitted).
- . if metal bits are used, all parts of the bit coming into the horse's mouth must be of metal (not necessarily the same metal)
- . the minimum diameter of the mouthpiece is 10mm
- . double jointed mouthpieces may have one 'roller', or rotating middle piece, in the centre section.

Multiple rollers are not permitted.

12.2 The curb bit must be of a type as detailed in the illustration on Plate 3. The limits of the dimensions of the curb bits allowable are as follows:

- . the curb must be made of metal or rigid plastic and may be covered with rubber (bits made only of rubber or rubber and chain not permitted)
- . the minimum diameter of the mouthpiece is 14mm
- . the lever arm of the curb bit below the mouthpiece should not measure more than 10cm when the mouthpiece is at the uppermost position.

### 12.3 Optional items (not compulsory)

- . lip strap
- . leather cover for curb chain
- . rubber cover for curb chain

## LEVEL ASSESSMENT RULES

### Amend Rule 3 to read

### 3. SPOT ASSESSMENT

- 3.1. Spot Assessments may be initiated by a Level Assessor at any time taking into consideration safety and fairness when making a decision. If a Level Assessor believes a Combination's level to be too high or too low the following steps should be taken to ensure that the horse and rider are correctly assessed.
- a) Check the relevant Performance Card to review the combination's assessment and performance history.
  - b) Discuss the possibility of an assessment change with the Rider. At an event, the rider should not be approached until they have finished competing for the day.
  - c) Prior to reassessment to a higher level, the Assessor needs to see the Combination performing at least the minimum requirements of that level.
  - d) Details of Spot Assessments are to be forwarded to the HRC AV by the Assessor within 7 days on the form provided at Appendix 3.
  - e) Combinations within 4 points of the next level should be allowed to point up.
  - f) Combinations which reached their current level through accumulation of performance points may not be spot assessed to a lower level.
  - g) If the Assessor is unable to complete a Spot Assessment a Level Assessment Query Form should be submitted.
  - h) If the Rider is reluctant to be re levelled, the Rider may submit an appeal against the Assessment.
  - i) In cases where an approach is made by a member seeking reassessment to a lower level, rule 7 applies. A spot assessment may not be initiated by a member.

### 4. QUERIES OF ASSESSMENT

- 4.1. Queries of Assessment may be submitted by the following officials if they believe a Combination is competing at the incorrect Level;
- 4.1.1. Any Judge officiating at the Event or
  - 4.1.2. Any Level Assessor unable to perform a Spot Assessment of the combination.
- 4.2. Level Assessment Query Form procedure
- a) The Judge or Level Assessor sends a Level Assessment Query Form to HRC AV.
  - b) The query is sent to Level Assessment Sub-committee within 3 days of receipt
  - c) The Sub-committee may decide that speaking with the relevant Level Assessor or Rider is adequate and that the Rider does not need to be viewed. If the Rider needs to be viewed by a Level Assessor, the costs for the Level Assessor are to be borne by the HRC AV.