



# PARA

## **RULES OF ESNZ PARA EQUESTRIAN**

**Effective 01 August 2024**

**Version 9**



**EQUESTRIAN SPORTS  
NEW ZEALAND**



**DRESSAGE**

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# EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NEW ZEALAND RULES FOR PARA-EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE EVENTS

## PREAMBLE

The first Paralympic Games were held in 1960. In 1989, the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) was established and in 1991, IPC introduced Equestrian Sport under the International Paralympic Equestrian Committee (IPEC). Para-Equestrians first competed in the Paralympics in 1996. On 1st January 2006 international Para-Equestrian competitions came under the governance of the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI), except for the Paralympic Games, which remain under the governance of the International Paralympic Committee. In October 2009 ESNZ adopted Para-Equestrian Dressage as its 5th Discipline.

This is the ninth edition of the ESNZ Para-Equestrian (PE) Rules. (Version 9). Effective on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2024. As from this date, all other texts covering the same matter (other editions, and all other official documents) issued previously are superseded.

Although this booklet sets out the detailed rules of ESNZ Para Equestrian (NZPE)) for Dressage Events, it must be read in conjunction with the General Regulations of Equestrian Sports New Zealand Inc (ESNZ) and Dressage New Zealand (DNZ), the FEI Rules of Classification and the FEI Rules of Para Dressage.

It is not possible to provide for every conceivable eventuality in these rules. If there is no rule to deal specifically with a particular circumstance, or if the nearest interpretation of the pertinent rule would result in an obvious injustice, ESNZ Para Equestrian will look to the FEI Rules for Para Equestrian for guidance. It is the duty of those responsible for making a final determination to make a decision based on common-sense and fair play, thus reflecting as closely as possible the intention of these Rules and of the General Regulations of the Equestrian Sport New Zealand Inc (ESNZ). Where FEI Articles are inapplicable to New Zealand conditions, they have been omitted and /or replaced by rules specific to New Zealand. These Rules and Regulations cannot be used either in principle, in whole or in part for the judging of competition unless that Organising Committee or body is affiliated to Equestrian Sports New Zealand.

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## FEI CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE

The FEI requires all those involved in international equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the Horse must be paramount. Welfare of the Horse must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences. The following points must be particularly adhered to:

### 1. GENERAL WELFARE

#### **a. Good Horse management**

Stabling and feeding must be compatible with the best Horse management practices. Clean and good quality forage, feed and water must always be available.

#### **b. Training methods**

Horses must only undergo training that matches their physical capabilities and level of maturity for their respective disciplines. They must not be subjected to methods which are abusive or cause fear.

#### **c. Farriery and tack**

Foot care and shoeing must be of a high standard. Tack must be designed and fitted to avoid the risk of pain or injury.

#### **d. Transport**

During transportation, Horses must be fully protected against injuries and other health risks. Vehicles must be safe, well ventilated, maintained to a high standard, disinfected regularly and driven by competent personnel. Competent handlers must always be available to manage the Horses.

#### **e. Transit**

All journeys must be planned carefully, and Horses allowed regular rest periods with access to food and water in line with current FEI guidelines.

### 2. FITNESS TO COMPETE

#### **a. Fitness and competence**

Participation in Competition must be restricted to fit Horses and Athletes of proven competence. Horses must be allowed suitable rest period between training and competitions; additional rest periods should be allowed following travelling.

**b. Health status**

No Horse deemed unfit to compete may compete or continue to compete, veterinary advice must be sought whenever there is any doubt.

**c. Doping and Medication**

Any action or intent of doping and illicit use of medication constitute a serious welfare issue and will not be tolerated. After any veterinary treatment, sufficient time must be allowed for full recovery before Competition.

**d. Surgical procedures**

Any surgical procedures that threaten a competing Horse's welfare or the safety of other Horses and/or Athletes must not be allowed.

**e. Pregnant/recently foaled mares**

Mares must not compete after their fourth month of pregnancy or with foal at foot.

**f. Misuse of aids**

Abuse of a Horse using natural riding aids or artificial aids (e.g. whips, spurs, etc.) will not be tolerated.

### **3. EVENTS MUST NOT PREJUDICE HORSE WELFARE**

**a. Competition areas**

Horses must be trained and compete on suitable and safe surfaces. All obstacles and competition conditions must be designed with the safety of the Horse in mind.

**b. Ground surfaces**

All ground surfaces on which Horses walk, train or compete must be designed and maintained to reduce factors that could lead to injury.

**c. Extreme weather**

Competitions must not take place in extreme weather conditions that may compromise welfare or safety of the Horse. Provision must be made for cooling conditions and equipment for Horses after competing.

**d. Stabling at Events**

Stables must be safe, hygienic, comfortable, well ventilated and of sufficient size for the type and disposition of the Horse. Washing-down areas and water must always be available.

**e. Humane treatment of Horses**

Veterinary treatment

Veterinary expertise must always be available at an Event. If a Horse is injured or exhausted during a Competition, the Athlete must stop competing and a veterinary evaluation must be performed.

**f. Referral centres**

Wherever necessary, Horses should be collected by ambulance and transported to the nearest relevant treatment centre for further assessment and therapy. Injured Horses must be given full supportive treatment before being transported.

**g. Competition injuries**

The incidence of injuries sustained in Competition should be monitored. Ground surface conditions, frequency of Competitions and any other risk factors should be examined carefully to indicate ways to minimise injuries.

**h. Euthanasia**

If injuries are sufficiently severe a Horse may need to be euthanized on humane grounds by a veterinarian as soon as possible, with the sole aim of minimising suffering.

**i. Retirement**

Horses must be treated sympathetically and humanely when they retire from Competition.

## **4. EDUCATION**

The FEI urges all those involved in equestrian sport to attain the highest possible levels of education in areas of expertise relevant to the care and management of the Competition Horse.

This Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse may be modified from time to time and the views of all are welcomed. Particular attention will be paid to new research findings and the FEI encourages further funding and support for welfare studies.





# CHAPTER I THE OBJECT AND PRINCIPLES OF PARA-EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE

## Article 100 PARA-EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE

1. Wherever possible the Para Dressage Athlete should follow the object and general principles of Dressage. However, as Athletes with impairments do not have the use of the entire body, all references to the aids must be interpreted to include the use of other parts of the body and/or appropriate and approved compensating aids. (See also the current edition of FEI Dressage Rules, and FEI Classification Rules). – available on the FEI website: [www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org).

## Article 101 GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF DRESSAGE

To be used in conjunction with: the rules of Dressage New Zealand Articles 401 – 417. Definitions of Paces and Movements.

1. The object of Dressage is the development of the Horse into a happy Athlete through harmonious education. As a result, it makes the Horse supple, loose and flexible, but also confident, attentive and keen, thus achieving perfect understanding with the Athlete.

These qualities are demonstrated by:

- 1.1. The freedom and regularity of the paces;
  - 1.2. The harmony, lightness and ease of the movements;
  - 1.3. The lightness of the forehand and the engagement of the hind-quarters, originating in a lively impulsion;
  - 1.4. The acceptance of the bridle, with submissiveness throughout and without any tenseness or resistance.
  - 1.5. The Horse thus gives the impression of doing of its own accord what is required. Confident and attentive, submitting generously to the control of the Athlete, remaining absolutely straight in any movement on a straight line and bending accordingly when moving on curved lines.
2. The walk is regular, free and unconstrained. The trot is free, supple, regular, sustained and active. The canter is united, light and cadenced. The hindquarters are never inactive or sluggish. The Horse responds to the slightest indication of the Athlete and thereby gives life and spirit to all the rest of its body.
  3. By virtue of a lively impulsion and the suppleness of the joints, free from the paralysing effects of resistance, the Horse obeys willingly and without hesitation and responds to the various aids calmly and with precision, displaying a natural and harmonious balance both physically and mentally.
  4. In all the work, even at the Halt, the Horse must be “on the bit”. A Horse is said to be “on the bit” when the neck is more or less raised and arched according to the stage of training and the extension or collection of the pace, and accepting the bridle with a light and soft contact and submissiveness throughout. The head should remain in a steady position, as a rule slightly in front of the vertical, with a supple poll as the highest point of the neck, and no resistance should be offered to the Athlete. Cadence is shown in trot and is the result of the proper harmony that a Horse shows when

it moves with well-marked regularity, impulsion and balance. Cadence must be maintained in all the different trot exercises and in all the variations of trot.

5. The rhythm that a Horse maintains in all the paces is fundamental to Dressage.

## Article 102 DEFINITIONS OF PACES AND MOVEMENTS

1. Please refer to the Rules of Dressage New Zealand Articles 402 – 418.

## Article 118 THE POSITION AND AIDS OF THE ATHLETE.

Wherever able, the Para Dressage Athlete should follow the guidelines in this article.

1. The Athlete will ride independently without support or lead rein attachment.
2. The Athlete will try to be well balanced and steady in the saddle, conforming as far as possible to the FEI definition of the Athlete' position. This position makes it possible for the Athlete to school/ride the Horse progressively and correctly showing that all the movements and transitions can be obtained with as little effort of the Athlete as possible. The aids which communicate the Athletes wishes to the Horse are of great importance in Dressage.
3. Where possible, Athletes will ride with both hands at all Para Dressage Events, not only when executing any of the Official Para Dressage Tests published by the FEI but also when executing any National Test that might be inserted in the program of the same event. However, when leaving the arena at a walk on a long rein, after having finished their performance, the Athlete may, at their own discretion, ride with only one (1) hand.
  - 3.1. A discreet 'pat on the neck' for a well performed exercise, or for reassurance, is perfectly acceptable (as is the situation of an Athlete needing to wipe a fly from their eye, or other situations such as adjusting clothing, saddle pads etc). However, if the rider intentionally takes the reins into one hand in order to use either the reins or the other hand to produce more impulsion from the Horse, or to promote applause from the spectators during the test, it will be considered a fault and will be reflected in the mark for both the movement and the collective mark for 'Rider'.
4. If foot reins are used, neither the hands nor arms may be used.
5. Voice – Athletes in Grades I, II and III may use their voice as an aid, provided they do so in moderation. Athletes in Grades IV and V may not use their voice at any time during the execution of their Test. Once a Test has started the Athlete shall not speak to any other person, unless spoken to by the Judge. Such a fault will be penalized by the deduction of at least two (2) marks by each Judge from those that would otherwise have been awarded for the movement where this occurred. *Refer to Article 153.*

## Article 125 ABUSE OF HORSES

1. See ESNZ General and Veterinary Regulations and Policies.

## **Article 126 EQUINE ANTI-DOPING AND CONTROLLED MEDICATION PROGRAM**

1. The Medication Control of horses must be conducted in accordance with the ESNZ Veterinary Regulations, FEI Veterinary Regulations and EADCMR.
2. The FEI Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations apply to all ESNZ events.

## **CHAPTER II JUDGING, SCORING & CLASSIFICATION**

### **JUDGES and OFFICIALS**

To be read in conjunction with current ESNZ General Regulations and the FEI General Regulations and FEI Para Dressage Rules which govern FEI Para Dressage Events, Competitions, and Event Officials.

## **Article 140 ELEGIBILITY, DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARA EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE JUDGES**

1. For all ESNZ graded Para Equestrian dressage competitions the Chief Judge must either be an ESNZ listed judge, or a foreign national judge approved by ESNZ Para Equestrian and/or Dressage NZ. (See also ESNZ General Regulations Article 135).
2. Please refer to Article 440 of the rules of Dressage New Zealand for the rules and responsibilities of the Dressage Judge.

## **Article 141 NUMBER, LIST & PLACING OF JUDGES**

1. Please refer to the Rules of Dressage New Zealand Article 441.

## **Article 142 GROUND JURY**

1. In all events run under these Rules the Judges for each individual class shall be the Ground Jury for that class.
2. The members of the Event Ground Jury must be nominated before the start of the Event.
3. For National competitions and when international competitors are invited and present (CPEDN), there should be at least three Judges, if possible.
4. Every effort should be made to appoint Official National Grade Judges for National Competitions. However, in special circumstances, where it is not possible to get a judge of this calibre, an Organising Committee can apply to the ESNZ Para-Equestrian Committee to have the next possible qualified judge appointed. It is up to the ESNZ Para-Equestrian Committee to approve this.
5. In the case of protest or complaint refer to Chapter Nine of the ESNZ General Regulations (Legal System).

### Judging Requirements for Para-Equestrian Events

EVENT	No. judges required (minimum)	ESNZ Para Equestrian Grade FEI Para	Equestrian Grade
CPEDI	3	ON (1 only)	FEI 3*, 4* or 5*
CPEDN	3	ON (1 only)	FEI 3*, 4* or 5*
National	3	ON; N	
Island	2	ON; N	
Regional	2	ON; N; CN shadow	
Local	1	ON; N; CN;	
<p>ESNZ Para-Equestrian Grade (see Annex II)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ON Official National</li> <li>• N National</li> <li>• CN Candidate **Local – A local Para-Equestrian event must have a qualified Para- Equestrian judge if possible. A Dressage New Zealand event with a Para- Equestrian class can be judged by a Dressage New Zealand listed judge at List D or above if a Para-Equestrian judge is not available.</li> </ul>			

- The marks of all Judges are taken into consideration for the results.
- For ESNZ National events and/or CPEDIM, the Jury must be appointed by the ESNZ Para-Equestrian Sports Manager and the Organizing Committee, and be chosen from the FEI National Federation or the ESNZ lists of Para Equestrian dressage judges.

### Article 143 CONFERRING

Please refer to the Rules of Dressage New Zealand, Article 443.

### Article 144 SCORER

Please refer to the Rules of Dressage New Zealand, Article 444.

### Article 145 DISPLAY OF MARKS

- The percentage awarded to the competitors by each Judge must be displayed under the Judge's own name, as well as the percentage gained from the total marks possible for final classification in the competition.
- Organising committees (OCs) must notify riders of the time that the official results are deemed to be announced by writing the time on the result sheet when the official result is officially posted by the

OC.

3. Online entry scores and results are provisional until the OC has verified and posted the official result

#### Article 146 COMPETITION CLASSIFICATION

1. The winner is the competitor having obtained the highest total points.
2. In the case of equality of marks in any competition, the higher collective marks will determine the higher placing. If the competitors are still equal then the co-efficient marks will determine the placings. If there is still an equality of points, the competitors are given the same placing.
3. Freestyle Tests: If two competitors have the same final total, the one with the higher marks for Artistic Presentation will be the winner. If they are still equal on the marks for Artistic Presentation then the competitors are given the same placing.
4. There is no weighting in ESNZ Para Equestrian Dressage. All tests are of equal points.

#### Article 148 RETIREMENT OR WITHDRAWAL

1. Once the test has been completed (i.e., the final halt at the end of the test) it is not permissible for the Athlete withdraw or retire from that competition.

#### Article 149 MARKING

1. All movements, and certain transitions from one to another, which have to be marked by the Judges, are numbered on the Test sheets.
2. Each movement/transition is marked from 10 to 0 by each Judge, 10 being the highest mark and 0 the lowest. Decimal marks of 0.5 may be used for all movements and collective marks in all levels of tests.
3. The scale of marks is as follows:

10	Excellent	4	Insufficient
9	Very good	3	Fairly bad
8	Good	2	Bad
7	Fairly good	1	Very bad
6	Satisfactory	0	Not executed -
5	Sufficient		"Not executed" means that practically nothing of the required movement has been performed.
4. Collective marks are awarded, after the competitor has finished their performance, as indicated on the test. Each collective mark is awarded from 10 to 0. Decimals of 0.5 may be used. In Freestyle competitions half marks (0.5) may be used for all technical marks and 0.1 decimals may be used for the artistic marks.
5. The collective marks and certain difficult and/or infrequently repeated movements, may be given a coefficient and is specified on the official test.

6. Any corrected mark must be initialled by the judge who made the correction.
7. Judges' marks must be recorded in ink.
8. If the Judge for any reason does not realise until the competitor has left the arena, that one or more marks have been omitted they must:
  - 8.1. Adjust as necessary the position of their marks and comments on their sheet to accord with the movements actually performed; and
  - 8.2. Give to each of the movements not marked, a mark equal to the average of the collective marks entered at the bottom of the score sheet (average to the nearest, 0.5 to be rounded upwards).
9. A judge must record the penalty for error of course on the test sheet. The decision as to whether an error of course has been made will be at the sole discretion of the Chief Judge. *See Article 151.7.*

## Article 150 HORSE CONFORMATION

1. The conformation of the horse or pony is not to be taken into account when judging a Para Equestrian competition.

## Article 151 EXECUTION OF THE TEST ERRORS OF THE COURSE, THE TEST & OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

### 1. Errors of The Course & Test

- 1.1. Subject to Article 151(3) when a competitor makes an "error of course" (eg takes the wrong turn, omits a movement etc) the Chief Judge warns the rider by sounding the bell.
- 1.2. After ringing the bell, if necessary, the Chief Judge advises the rider the point at which the rider must take up the test again and the next movement to be executed then leaves the rider to continue the test.
- 1.3. In cases when a rider makes an "error of the course" the sounding of the bell would unnecessarily impede the fluency of the performance (eg if the competitor makes a transition from medium trot to collected walk at V instead of K, or, cantering up the centre line from A, makes a transition at D instead of at L) it is up to the Chief Judge to decide whether to sound the bell or not.
- 1.4. However, if the bell is not sounded for an "error of the course" and the test requires the same movement to be repeated on the opposite rein and the rider again makes the same error, the rider is only penalised once.
- 1.5. When a horse or pony enters the arena at the wrong pace the bell will be sounded, as for an error of the course, when the horse is halted. The competitor will be sent out of the arena to restart the test.
- 1.6. With the exception of Article 151(3) every "error of the course", whether the bell is sounded or not, must be penalised the first time by 2 points, the second time by 4 points and the third time with elimination, although the rider may continue their test to the end with the marks being awarded in the ordinary way.

- 1.7. The decision as to whether an “error of the course” has been made will be at the sole discretion of the Judge at C. The other Judges scores will be adapted accordingly.
- 1.8. In principle a rider is not allowed to repeat a movement of the test unless the Chief Judge notifies an error of the course by sounding the bell. If, however, the rider has started the execution of a movement and tries to do the same movement again, the judge/s must consider the first movement shown and penalise for an error of the course.
- 1.9. If the Judge/s have not noted an error of the course during the time the rider completes the test, the rider has the benefit of the doubt and no penalty may apply.
- 1.10. Penalty points are recorded on each Judge's sheet and deducted from the total points obtained by the rider from each Judge.
- 1.11. In a movement which must be carried out at a certain point of the arena, it should be done at the moment when the rider's body is above this point except in transitions where the horse approaches the letter from a diagonal or is perpendicular to the point where the letters are positioned, in which case, the transitions must be done as the horse's nose reaches the track at the letter so that the horse is straight in the transition.
- 1.12. The rider has 45 seconds from the sounding of the bell to commence the test. The test commences from the point the horse proceeds on the centre line, entry at A. If the test is not commenced within 45 seconds of the sounding of the bell the rider will be penalised 2 points per judge. If the test does not commence within 60 seconds of the sounding of the bell the rider will be eliminated.
- 1.13. All athletes may salute with a nod of the head only. Helmets must not be removed at the salute, and contact must be maintained on the reins.
- 1.14. Any fall of the horse and/or rider between the entry at A and the end of the test at the final salute, will entail elimination from that test, and the rider may not remount to leave.
  - 1.14.1. If there is a fall of horse and/or rider after the final halt and salute this will not entail elimination and the rider may not remount to leave the arena.
- 1.15. In case of a fall of an Athlete and/or horse at any time in the competition arena, in the practice arena, or elsewhere within the grounds of the event, the Athlete must be checked by the event's medical service (or by a medical doctor if the medical service is not available) before he/she may be permitted to remount and take part in the next round of the competition.
- 1.16. If an athlete, having had a fall, remounts or leaves the grounds without first having a medical check, they may, at the discretion of the GJ be given a verbal warning, an ESNZ Official Warning or a fine not exceeding \$100.
- 1.17. Before the horse and rider may continue at the event, the Chief Judge or representative of the OC must:
  - 1.17.1. Send the rider to the designated first aid official for assessment of injury. Refer to ESNZ Concussion Policy
  - 1.17.2. May send the horse to be assessed for injury by a vet or event steward.
- 1.18. If after the horse and Athlete combination has entered the arena, the Athlete dismounts without a reason acceptable to the Chief Judge, the penalty will be elimination.

- 1.19. A horse leaving the arena with all four (4) feet between the time of commencement of the test and the time of exit from the arena will be eliminated, unless the arena surround is intermittent or marked by a line in which case elimination is at the discretion of the Chief Judge. An exception to this rule is when a horse is required to recommence a test pursuant to Article 151.4.
- 1.20. A test begins with the entry at A and ends after the salute at the end of the test as soon as the horse moves forward. For the sole purpose of checking for blood on the equipment, if there is an inspection. Any incidents before the beginning or after the end of the test have no effect on the marks. However, if a competitor leaves the arena in any other way than that prescribed in the text of the test, this may be considered a disciplinary matter at the discretion of the Chief Judge.
- 1.21. Resistance. Any resistance which prevents the continuation of the test longer than sixty (60) seconds will result in elimination. However, resistance that may endanger the Athlete, Horse, Officials or the public will result in elimination for safety reasons earlier than within sixty (60) seconds. This also applies to any resistance before entering the Dressage arena, or when leaving the arena except;
- 1.21.1. In the event that the horse starts to defecate or urinate, the clock will be stopped until the horse is ready to continue, at which point the clock will be restarted.
- 1.22. The Chief Judge may stop a test at any point and eliminate the rider if for any reason the Judge believes it is contrary to the best interests of the horse and/or rider to continue the test.

## 2. Unauthorised & Outside Assistance

- 2.1. Any intentional outside intervention is considered assistance to a rider or horse. Any outside assistance or intervention, including coaching by voice, signs etc., may result in elimination, at the discretion of the President of the Ground Jury or the Judge at C. This includes but is not limited to: Assistance by voice, signs, earphone and/or electronic communication devices. Exceptions:
- 2.1.1. A smart watch may be worn but must not be used as a communication device.
- 2.1.2. Visually Impaired and Commanders. Refer to Article 191 and Article 152.
- 2.2. In cases where an Athlete stops the test and receives outside assistance in order to turn a temporarily unsafe situation back into a safe situation (in case of a lost stirrup), each judge should give zero (0) for the particular movement, but allow the Athlete to continue their Test.
- 2.2.1. However, if the danger seems to be of a more permanent character, it shall remain the discretion of the C Judge to eliminate the combination.
- 2.3. Helpers (Spotters) maximum of four, may be placed in corners or at each marker, 1 m outside the arena for safety reasons. In an emergency, they may give physical assistance. Penalties will be at the discretion of the Judge at C, who may eliminate the Athlete either at the time, or at the conclusion of the test.
- 2.4. For Grade I, II and III, a companion horse may stand within 2-5 m adjacent to the arena at a place designated or as directed by the Ground Jury. The companion horse must be bridled and handled by a competent person. Companion horses must comply with all OC requirements for



horses on the grounds and be either led by the reins or appropriate lead attachment (Article 177.14).

- 2.5. Mounted riders may have their horse attached to a lead line at walk when proceeding to or from the warmup area. *(See also Article 177.14).*
- 2.6. Mounted riders may have their horse attached to a lead line when proceeding to and from the competition area but not in or around the competition arena. This will be considered outside assistance and will entail elimination. Exceptions:
- 2.7. On the grounds of safety, athletes in Grade I, II, III and Functional Profile 36 (blind) may be accompanied around the outside arena by the trainer or his representative before the test starts. The Athlete may be led but must not be schooled from the ground. The assisting person must stand outside the arena on the field of play during the test.
- 2.8. Any assistance to get the horse into the dressage arena or the area directly around the arena, including being led by another horse around the arena is considered outside assistance. (Not applicable for riders in Grade I, II and III or for riders competing in lead rein competitions).
- 2.9. The Athletes trainer or representative may stand near the competition arena to relay the Judges' instructions, if necessary.
- 2.10. At Local events (refer to Annex 2) for Grade I only. Where permitted and safely accommodated by the OC. Grade I Athletes may be led in a Grade or Combined Grades Class as a HC competitor. At all other events riders must ride independently. For dedicated lead rein events refer to Annex 4 of the rules of Dressage New Zealand.
- 2.11. If a Grade I Athlete is on a lead rein, no whips may be carried. The lead must be attached as per Article 177.14.
- 2.12. Where Commanders are permitted, it is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that only the printed text, or extracts thereof, are read out and that no other form of assistance is given. Refer to Article 152.

## Article 152    COMMANDED TESTS

1. All tests may be commanded at Local and Training events. See Annex 2.
2. Commanding of tests is not allowed at the following events:
  - 2.1. Para Equestrian Dressage Horse of the Year classes
  - 2.2. National Para Equestrian Dressage Championships
  - 2.3. Regional Para Equestrian Dressage Events
  - 2.4. Para Equestrian Dressage Classes held at Dressage NZ Premiere League Events
  - 2.5. Any series or competition/s which ESNZ Para Equestrian may from time to time stipulate must be ridden from memory. It must be stated in the series conditions and / or event schedule which competitions may not be commanded. *(Refer also to Article 191).*
3. All tests must at Regional (RE) levels and higher must be ridden from memory with the exception of Athletes with Commanders stated on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
4. In all cases Athletes must provide their own Commander.

5. The Commander must stand still outside the Arena opposite either B or E.
6. All Commanders must be supervised by a Steward who must remain within hearing distance to the Commander.
  - 6.1. All Athletes who have been allowed a commander or caller/s as a compensating aid on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List are permitted to use a headset during all tests. See below.
  - 6.2. In the above (191.1.2), it is the responsibility of the Athlete to provide a fully functioning headset with an extra receiver to enable the steward to listen to all communication going from the coach/helper to the Athlete. If this is not the case, the Athlete will not be permitted to use the equipment and must ride the test without it.
7. If the Commander causes the rider to make an error of the course the rider will be penalised in accordance with Article 151.
8. If, in the opinion of the Judge/s, the Commander makes any variation from the text of the test or does anything to assist the rider by signal, remarks or inflexion of the voice, a penalty may be recorded equal to that of the error of the course that would have occurred had the assistance not been given.

#### **Article 153     USE OF VOICE**

1. Once a Test has started the Athlete shall not speak to any other person, unless spoken to by the Judge.
2. Athletes in Grades I, II and III may use their voice as an aid, provided they do so in moderation.
3. Athletes in Grades IV and V may not use their voice at any time during the execution of their Test. Repetitive use of voice or clicking of the tongue will result in a 2-point penalty per fault for each Judge, but they are not cumulative and will not result in Elimination (including Freestyle tests).
  - 3.1. Such a fault will be penalized by the deduction of at least two (2) marks by each Judge from those that would otherwise have been awarded for the movement where this occurred.
4. It is the responsibility of the Judge at C to decide whether a penalty should be applied and the other judges' sheets should be marked accordingly to ensure consistency.

#### **Article 154     LAMENESS & BLOOD**

1. Any horse that shows lameness while competing will be eliminated. The Chief Judge will ring the bell to stop the test and explain the reason for the elimination to the rider. There is no appeal against this decision.
2. If there are any doubts as to the soundness of a horse or pony, the Athlete will be allowed to complete the test and any unevenness of pace will be severely penalised.
3. If the judge at C suspects fresh blood anywhere on the horse during the test, the Judge will stop the horse by sounding the bell to check for blood. If the horse shows fresh blood, it will be eliminated from that class. The elimination is final. However, the horse may perform later in other class/es if there is no fresh blood or lameness. If the Judge, through examination, decides that the horse has no fresh blood, the horse may resume and finish the test.

## Article 155 PENALTIES FOR CONTRAVENTION OF RULES

1. The penalty for a contravention of these rules will range from a two-point deduction for each occurrence of a minor infringement, such as incorrect dress; to elimination for major infringements, such as forbidden tack or when stated explicitly in the rule concerned.
2. Subject to Article 154, in the case of elimination the rider will complete the test and be notified of elimination at the end of the test.
3. Penalty points will be deducted from the final score and will not count as errors of course.
4. Penalties relating to forbidden/ incorrect tack, compensation aids or dress. Please refer to Article 180 -181.
5. For any penalties not prescribed in these rules please refer to the rules of Dressage New Zealand Article 455.4 – Table of Penalties.

## CLASSIFICATION

Also refer to Annex 1.

## Article 156 CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Para Equestrian sport is a graded system based on the degree of physical or visual disability and handled at the international level by the FEI. The sport has eligible classifications for people with physical and vision disabilities and is open to competitors with impaired muscle power, athetosis, impaired passive range of movement, hypertonia, limb deficiency, ataxia, leg length difference, short stature, and vision impairment. Para-equestrian classification does not consider the gender of the rider, as equestriennes compete in mixed gender competitions.

### 1. ATHLETE CLASSIFICATION

- 1.1. It is a condition of participation that the Athlete has a permanent, verifiable and measurable physical or visual impairment which is supported by medical evidence and satisfies the minimal impairment criteria as detailed in the FEI Para Equestrian Classification Rules; (See Annex I)
  - 1.1.1. All athletes must have their Functional Profile assessed by a FEI Para- Equestrian accredited Classifier (or by a relevantly qualified person nominated by the New Zealand Chief Para-Equestrian Classifier for a provisional classification) before they may take part in a competition. The Athlete will be graded according to their Functional Profile as described in the FEI Para-Equestrian Classification Manual. Athletes are divided into five Grades: Grades I and II are for the riders with a severe impairment; Grade V is for the riders with least impairment.
  - 1.1.2. Athletes, once classified, are permitted to compete in NZ Para Equestrian Dressage Competitions and Dressage New Zealand (Refer to Article 157 and Annex 1) using the approved compensating aids as recorded on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List and any Standard Compensating (SA) aids allowed for Athletes, as defined in the ESNZ Para Equestrian Dressage Rules in alignment with FEI Para Dressage.
  - 1.1.3. All Compensation Aids used in Para Equestrian are at the approval of FEI Para Equestrian and should at any time should they come under review or change then ESNZ Para

Equestrian will also review their status.

- 1.2. Should a Functional Profile need/ or be re-assessed and the Athlete is reclassified (due to a change in medical condition or impairment) to:
  - 1.2.1. A higher grade. The Athlete may compete in the original Grade for two months from the date of the reclassification. This accepts that the Athlete does not change his/her compensating aids.
  - 1.2.2. To a lower grade. The Athlete may change to the new grade immediately. For further details, see Annex I and the FEI Para-Equestrian Classification Manual.
- 1.3. If an Athlete modifies equipment to assist their balance, they may be re-classified, and as a result, may change Grade. The Athlete would then have the option to ride in the higher Grade or not to use such adapted equipment. (See Article 156.1.1).

## CHAPTER III      PARA DRESSAGE COMPETITION

### Article 158      HORSE AND PONY IDENTIFICATION

1. All Classified Para Equestrian riders must display the **“Official Orange ESNZ Para Equestrian Badge”** on both sides of the saddle cloth at all times whilst hacking, lunging, schooling, exercising and competing in all ESNZ affiliated disciplines when the horse/ pony is under saddle.
2. “Bridle numbers” (the official horse/ pony registration number issued by ESNZ) must also be worn on both the near and off side of the horse/pony at all times whilst hacking, lunging, schooling, exercising and competing at Events run under ESNZ Para Equestrian rules for Dressage.
3. When saddled all horses must display both their Official ESNZ Bridle Numbers and the Official ESNZ Para Equestrian Orange Discs on both sides of the saddle cloth whilst hacking, lunging, schooling, exercising and competing in all ESNZ affiliated disciplines.
4. ID Numbers must be worn either attached to the bridle on the side of the face below the ear or attached to the lower rear corner of the saddle cloth.;
5. It is permissible to provide your own ID numbers. ID (Bridle) Numbers must be:
  - 5.1. Black numbers on a white background;
  - 5.2. The numbers must be a minimum of 4.5cm high, but no more than 5.5cm high. They should be approximately 5mm wide;
  - 5.3. The white background must be a minimum of 9 x 6cm and should be no more than 10 x 7cm.
  - 5.4. Refer to <https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/disciplines/para-equestrian/about-para-equestrian/para-equestrian-badges/> to download printable versions of the “Official Para Equestrian Badges”
6. OC’s may allocate other forms of ID numbers for use for non -registered horses in non-graded competitions (TE) eg Rider arm bands or back numbers




*The Official Badge of ESNZ Para Equestrian. Black outline on orange.*

- At all other times during the Event, horses and ponies must have identification tags with the horse's name and the person's responsible name and mobile number attached to the horse (eg: on the halter, cover). Engraved metal discs or cattle ear tags are examples of acceptable methods of identification at times the horse/pony is not being exercised or competed.
- Failure to display ID numbers and/or official Orange ESNZ Para equestrian badge as described, without a reason acceptable to the ground jury, may result in a warning, fine or disqualification from the competition as per Article 143 of the ESNZ General Regulations.

## Article 159 PARA-EQUESTRIAN ID CARDS

- After classification the Athlete will be issued with a copy of their Classification, detailing their Profile, Grade and Compensating Aids permitted in competition, completed by the Classifier. Once an Athletes profile has been verified and approved by ESNZ. The Athlete's Official Classification Data will then be entered onto the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List. (*Refer to Annex 1*) and a Para Equestrian ID Card will be issued.
- At the commencement of the official ESNZ season (1 August) all current financial Athletes will receive by email a printable copy of their ESNZ "Para Equestrian ID Card".
- Upon any reclassification or changes made to an Athletes Classification Data another card will be issued.
- It is the Athletes responsibility to ensure that their email and contact details are correct at ESNZ.
- Should the Athlete not receive a copy of their ID card then they must obtain one by contacting ESNZ Head Office before competing.
- It is highly recommended that a copy of the ID Card is carried by the Athlete or Support Crew at all times while competing or schooling so that it can be produced when requested by an official.
- It is the responsibility of the Athlete upon entering any competition outside of the EvoEvents event system to submit a copy of their "Para Equestrian ID Card" to the OC at the time of entry.
- As a Classified Para Equestrian Athlete of ESNZ, the Athlete gives permission for their "Para Equestrian ID Card" to be copied and shared to the relevant Judges of the classes entered at any event. This includes all Stewards and the Technical Delegate.

ESNZ PARA EQUESTRIAN ID CARD	
2022/ 2023	
	
Name:	
Grade & Profile:	
ESNZ Member No:	
Profile Specific Aids:	
CARD #:	

ESNZ STANDARD COMPENSATION AIDS LIST (SA)	
1. SWHO- Salute with head only	12. Elastic bands on stirrups
2. Use of voice grades I-III only	13. Enclosed stirrups
3. Sitting or rising trot	14. Magnetic stirrups
4. Gloves are optional	15. Elastic rein inserts
5. Safety vest includes inflatable	16. Double bridle
6. Breast plate &/ or neck strap	17. Forked/ split reins on double
7. Deep saddle	18. Knotted reins
8. Spurs are optional – offset spurs are a profile specific aid	
9. Saddle – English. Any modification or adaptation to a saddle are considered nonstandard compensating aids and must be noted on the Masterlist	
10. Soft Hand Hold Maximum 10cm from pommel when held, and 30cm width	
11. One whip Max 120cm horses & 100cm ponies with no modifications	
<i>These aids can be used by classified para equestrian athletes in NZ</i>	

## Article 160 GRADING OF HORSES & PONIES

- Para Equestrian Dressage competitions are divided into the five (5) grades as governed by the FEI.
- Grading points are earned for all Fully Classified Para-Equestrian Athletes riding registered horses/ponies at Local graded, Regional and National level events (Refer to Annex 2)

3. Grading Points are allocated on the percentage gained in each test. A combination will receive grading points for qualifying percentages received in individual dressage competitions, run under the rules of the FEI or ESNZ.
4. Grading Points will be awarded on a percentage basis as follows:

57.00% to 59.99%	1 point
60.00% to 62.99%	2 points
63.00% to 66.99%	3 points
67.00% to 69.99%	5 points
70.00% to 74.99%	7 points
>75.00%	10 points

5. Percentages received by horses/ponies competing in any nongraded competition do not count for Grading Points.
6. Grading points are taken as at the evening prior to the commencement of an event.
7. Test of choice competitions are permitted at Local Events.
8. Test of Choice Competitions may be run as graded or non graded.
9. If the competition is graded, the correct number and List of Judges must officiate. The results must be forwarded to ESNZ and include the level and test ridden and percentage gained by each horse/rider.
10. If Test of Choice grading results are submitted to National Office electronically, each Test (regardless of number of competitors) must be submitted as a separate class to ESNZ. This will result in a winner & placegetters, if any, for each test regardless of the Test of Choice classification awarded at the event. If results are not submitted in this way, the ESNZ database upload programme is unable to automatically upload the results and no grading points will be recorded.

## Article 161 ELIGIBILITY OF HORSES AND PONIES

### 1. The Horse/ Pony

- 1.1. All horses and ponies must be registered with ESNZ when competing in any graded competition, with the exception that foreign horses and riders need not be registered if competing as part of a Foreign National representative team.
- 1.2. For the purposes of determining a horse/pony age under these Rules, an official foaling date of 1st August applies to Southern Hemisphere born horses and 1st January for Northern Hemisphere born horses.
- 1.3. Horses must be a minimum of 4 years of age for ESNZ Para Equestrian events.

- 1.4. In the interests of safety, horses must not behave in a manner deemed dangerous when in the vicinity of other horses. It is the responsibility of the Athlete that the horse is safe for the Athlete, other horses and people at the event. The Organising Committee may require any horse deemed to be behaving in a dangerous manner to be removed from the grounds.
- 1.5. In Para Equestrian events, Horses and Ponies compete on equal terms.

## 2. Stallions

- 2.1. The ESNZ General Regulations govern stallions at events and reference should be made to the ESNZ General Regulations for the full text of this rule;
- 2.2. In summary;
  - 2.2.1. The Person Responsible, riders and handlers of stallions are required to comply with Article 133 of the ESNZ General Regulations;
  - 2.2.2. Stallions must wear a red ESNZ Stallion bridle tag. Under Article 133.7 of the ESNZ General Regulations.
  - 2.2.3. ESNZ Para Equestrian requires the rider and handler of a stallion to wear approved stallion armbands (one on each arm) or a stallion sash (see note below) at events run under ESNZ rules for Para Equestrian and Dressage, at all times when the stallion is not confined in a suitable stable/yard/truck/float. The rider may however, for the competition, choose to remove the armbands at the completion of the final warm up, just before entering the area around the competition arena where they come under the jurisdiction of the ground jury.
  - 2.2.4. The Specifications for Stallion Armbands: Red (approx. 100mm) with a white strip (approx. 25mm) and are available for purchase from ESNZ National office.

## Article 162 ELIGIBILITY OF ATHLETES

To be read in conjunction with Article 156 – Conditions of Participation. Refer also to ESNZ General Regulations Article 123

### 1. Membership

- 1.1. Para Equestrian is an official discipline of ESNZ. Therefore, for an Athletes Para Equestrian Classification and the use of Compensation Aids to be active they must be financial members of ESNZ as follows:
  - 1.1.1. Athlete's competing in graded competitions must be Child or Full members of ESNZ.
  - 1.1.2. Athlete's competing in non-graded competitions must be Introductory, Child, or Full Members of ESNZ or pay a Day Membership.

### 2. Age

- 2.1. There are no age limits for ESNZ Para Equestrian competition.
- 2.2. Competitors who wish to compete in FEI International events will be bound by the FEI rules.

### 3. Grades & Reclassification

- 3.1. All riders must compete in the grade for which they are classified.
- 3.2. An Athlete may not enter a lower Grade test than his/her Functional Profile indicates except after reclassification. *(See also Article 156 – Conditions of Participation and Annex 1).*

#### 4. Support Personnel

- 4.1. Athletes are responsible to provide their own support personnel necessary in order for them to compete. The Organising Committee (OC) is not responsible for providing transport, staff, specific equipment or helpers for competitors, or grooms for the horses.
- 4.2. Experienced equine or support people are required for all Grades. The number of support people is dependent on the Athlete's needs.
  - 4.2.1. For Grades I, II & III: a minimum of one support person capable of handling the horse is required to be with the Athletes at all times while mounted including arena familiarisation, warm up and prize-giving. *(See Article 185).*
  - 4.2.2. For Grades IV & V: it is highly recommended and good practice that all Athletes have a minimum of one support person with them *(See Article 185)* who can provide assistance.

#### 5. Medication & TUE's

- 5.1. Equestrian Sports New Zealand (ESNZ) is in partnership with Sport Integrity Commission All members of ESNZ are required to abide by New Zealand's Sports Anti-Doping Rules. These rules reflect the World Anti-Doping Agency's (WADA) World Anti-Doping Code. Please refer to the ESNZ General Regulations <https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/esnz/rules-regulations/rules-and-regulations/>
- 5.2. In the nature of sport, the rules about medication, drugs, substances are continually changing. It is the Athletes responsibility to be advised and to read up on the information regarding substances and medications at <https://drugfreesport.org.nz/>
- 5.3. Athletes who require the use of a banned, prohibited or restricted substance for medical reasons must apply for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE).
  - 5.3.1. For ESNZ sport, through Sport Integrity Commission or the FEI (if FEI registered).  
<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/esnz/about-clean-sport/therapeutic-use-exemptions/>

#### 6. Maximum number of tests per day

- 6.1. Under FEI Rules Athletes may compete in a maximum of 2 tests per day per horse.
- 6.2. Horses may compete in a maximum of 2 tests per day across Para and or Able-Bodied Dressage classes.
- 6.3. Combinations (athlete and named horse) competing at National Dressage Championships or Horse of the Year Show are required to enter either Para or Able-Bodied competition, NOT both.
- 6.4. Shared Para Equestrian horses in all grades may compete in a maximum of three tests per day unless specifically stated by the OC of the event.
- 6.5. No Classified Para Equestrian Athlete may ride more than two horses in any one Para competition. *(See Annex 2)*



6.6. If there are too many horses entered, the Organising Committee may ballot or otherwise restrict the number that may compete.

## **7. Competing in Dressage NZ Competition**

7.1. Fully Classified Para-Equestrian Athletes may compete in able-bodied Dressage New Zealand events using permitted compensating aids as per the conditions as set in Article 183 and Rules of Dressage New Zealand Article 483.

## **Article 163 ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITIONS & SERIES**

1. It is the responsibility of the Person Responsible for a horse at an event to ensure that the horse is eligible for the competition in which it is entered.
2. It is the responsibility of the rider to ensure that he/she is eligible for any competition in which he/she is entered.
3. If a horse or rider is entered in a competition which that horse or rider is ineligible then that horse and/or rider will be removed from that competition. The organising committee may at their discretion transfer the horse and/or riders' entry into another competition which that horse and/or rider is eligible for.
4. If a horse or rider is intentionally entered into a competition in which that horse or rider is ineligible this may be referred under procedures set out in Article 143 ESNZ General Regulations and may attract a disciplinary sanction.
5. Combinations intending to compete at the ESNZ Para Equestrian Dressage National level competition (Refer to Annex 2) are required to have competed at two different Training (TE), Local (LE), Regional (RE) or National Para Equestrian events in their classified grade on the horse/s they wish to compete in the 12 months prior to the start date of the event.
6. Combinations wishing to enter the Para Equestrian classes at a National event (Refer to Annex 2) must also have qualified as a combination with a score of 57% or higher achieved in the FEI Team or FEI Individual test for their Grade in the 12 months prior to the start date at any Local (LE), Regional (RE) or National level Para Equestrian Dressage event sanctioned by Dressage NZ and/ or ESNZ Para Equestrian and run under ESNZ Para Equestrian Rules.
7. In the case of the inability of a combination to compete one month out from the event, upon the presentation of a vet or equivalent certificate dated no earlier than one month out from the event, the rider may apply to ESNZ for dispensation to compete a substitute horse. Substitute horse must be ESNZ registered and deemed suitable, but the two-show qualification requirement (Article 163.5) will be waived.
8. For riders who are sharing a horse. Each individual rider must obtain the necessary qualification standard as a combination (Article 163.5/6). This may be achieved in conjunction with the sharing rider at the same qualifying events with the conditions of Article 166.
9. In the use of Article 163 it is the Athletes responsibility to check with the OC prior to the draw that these conditions are met.

## **Article 164 SPECIAL COMPETITIONS**

1. To create more interest and variety in Para Equestrian Dressage Competition for both riders and spectators it is intended that special competitions will from time to time be authorised by ESNZ.
2. Where they conflict, the rules for Special Competitions will override relevant rules in other chapters.
3. Organisations affiliated to ESNZ intending to run a special competition, which does not come within the rules for ESNZ Para Equestrian, must submit their proposed conditions to ESNZ for authorization.
4. Detailed conditions for special competitions must be set out in the event schedule programme.

#### **Article 165 PRIZE MONEY**

1. Prize money is not compulsory at Para Equestrian Dressage Events. If prize money is to be awarded, the amount/s will be at the discretion of the Organizing Committee and must be published in the schedule.
2. From time to time the relevant rules under the ESNZ General Regulations will govern prize money in circumstances where these Rules are silent or do not cover dressage competitions run by ESNZ.

#### **Article 166 SHARING OF HORSES**

1. Where one Horse is shared by two Athletes the following applies:
  - a. For Horses ridden by Grade I, II or III Athletes, the horse must still only be schooled by a trainer/coach/groom or person as nominated by the Athlete for a total of 30 minutes per day. (i.e., if two Athletes from Grade I, II or III share, they are only allowed 30 minutes total shared between them, per day).
2. Arena familiarisation sessions are allocated on a Horse basis, not Athlete basis and therefore only one session would be allocated to a Horse shared by two Athletes.
3. Where Horses are shared by one Athlete from the lower Grades (I, II or III and one Athlete from the higher Grades (IV or V) the following applies:
  - a. On competition days, if the lower Grade Athlete competes first then 30 minutes schooling by a trainer/coach/groom/ or person as nominated by the Athlete will be allowed prior to the test.
4. On competition days where the higher-Grade Athlete competes first, this is considered to be the 30 minutes schooling (by a trainer/coach/groom/ person nominated by the Athlete) allowed for the lower Grade Athlete and therefore no further allocation of time will be allowed for the lower Grade Athlete. This is on the grounds of horse welfare.
5. On non-competition days, the Horse may be ridden by both Athletes, but no time will be allocated for the Horse to be schooled by a trainer/coach/groom or person as nominated by the Athlete. It is considered the higher-Grade Athlete is schooling the Horse for the lower Grade Athlete.

## CHAPTER IV PARTICIPATION

### Article 170 USE OF TESTS

1. Only the current FEI may be used in ESNZ Para-Equestrian Dressage competitions.
2. Each Grade has its own series of FEI Para Equestrian Dressage Tests.
3. Details of the Official FEI and ESNZ Para-Equestrian Tests are published on the FEI ([www.fei.org](http://www.fei.org)) and ESNZ ([www.nzequestrian.org.nz](http://www.nzequestrian.org.nz)) websites. It is the Athletes responsibility to perform the correct edition of the test.
4. Dressage and Freestyle to Music Tests are graded according to suitability for the Athletes in the five Grades (I, II, III, IV and V).
  - In Grade I tests, Athletes compete at walk.
  - In Grade II tests, Athletes compete at walk and trot.
  - In Grade III tests, Athletes compete at walk and trot.
  - In Grade IV tests, Athletes compete at walk, trot, with lateral work, and canter.
  - In Grade V tests, Athletes compete at walk, trot and canter with lateral work.
5. For specific scheduling requirements for the use of Para Equestrian Dressage tests please refer to Annex 2.

### Article 171 FREESTYLE COMPETITIONS

1. Except where specifically provided under this Article, all rules in respect to performance and conduct of horse and rider apply to Freestyle Competitions, including applicable penalties under these rules.
2. In all events the FEI Musical Freestyle test for Grades I-V will be used in the Musical Freestyle competition in all ESNZ Para Equestrian Dressage events. Refer to the official test in each Grade for details of compulsory, optional and non-permitted movements.
3. For Musical Freestyle Competitions:
  - 3.1. Grades I, II, III will perform their musical freestyle in a 20m x 40m arena.
  - 3.2. Grades IV, V will perform their musical freestyle in a 20m x 60m arena.
  - 3.3. Exceeding 45 seconds before entering the arena entails a penalty of 2pts PER JUDGE at the discretion of the Chief Judge.
  - 3.4. A rider must enter the arena within 20 seconds of the music starting. The music should cease at the final salute. The test time will start when the rider moves forward after the halt.
  - 3.5. Penalty for Exceeding Time allowed is the deduction of two points from the total for artistic presentation on each Judges Score Sheet.

- 3.6. In the event a rider's music fails during a freestyle test and there is no backup system:
  - 3.6.1. the rider may, with the permission of the Chief Judge, leave the arena;
  - 3.6.2. There should be minimum interference with the starting times of other riders';
  - 3.6.3. The affected rider should return to complete or restart their test during a scheduled break in the competition or at the end of the competition.
  - 3.6.4. The President of the Ground Jury, after conferring with the rider, will determine when the rider should return to the arena;
  - 3.6.5. It is up to the rider whether to restart the test from the beginning or to commence from the point where the music failed. In any case marks already given will not be changed.
4. At the beginning and end of all Freestyle tests a halt for the salute is compulsory.

## Article 172 ARENA

1. Rope and tape arenas are prohibited at all dressage competitions run under ESNZ Rules for Dressage. The arena should be:
  - 1.1. An arena of 60 m long and 20 m wide for Grade IV & V Athletes.
  - 1.2. An arena of 40 m long and 20 m wide for Grade I, Grade II and Grade III Athletes.
2. At local and training level events (Refer to Annex 2) FEI and ESNZ National Level Para-Equestrian tests may be ridden in a 60 x 20 arena for all grades at the discretion of the OC. While it is good practice and preferred that correct arena sizes are observed for the Grades, it is in the interests of all competing Athletes, timetabling and numbers that this is not always viable.
3. The arena should be:
  - 3.1. As level as possible with the grass not too long.
  - 3.2. The arena must be enclosed, with the optional exception of the gateway, by a low fence about 30cm high.
  - 3.3. In exceptional circumstances intermittent white boards may be used placed at each corner and opposite each marker;
  - 3.4. The gateway should be approximately 2 metres wide;
  - 3.5. If a permitted arena material is used eg plastic chain, it must be at least 45cm but not more than 60cm above the ground.
  - 3.6. The rails of a fence, if used, should be such to prevent the horse's hooves from becoming caught.
4. The letters outside the arena should be placed about 0.50 metres from the arena fence and clearly marked. It is desirable to place a special marker on the fence itself, level with and in addition to the letter concerned.
5. When no gatekeeper is used, the marker A should be placed as far back as practicable to allow the competitor to enter the arena on a straight line.
6. A centre line is recommended but is left to the discretion of the OC. When a centre line is used it

should be clear but discreet. The points at D, L, X, I and G should not be marked.

7. The public should be kept at least 10 metres from the arena. For indoor competitions, the minimum distance should in principle be 3 metres. The difference in elevation across the diagonal or along the length of the arena shall in no case exceed 0.50 metres.
8. The difference in elevation along the short side of the arena shall in no case be more than 0.20 metres.
9. Depending on the state of the surface of the arena, the Technical Delegate or Chief Judge may request a pause in the competition to reconstitute the surface of the arena. For indoor competitions and when all weather surfaces are used, the OC should allow time within the competition schedule to comply with this.
10. Arenas should, wherever possible, be erected with a minimum of three metres between them.
11. If a foreign object is in the arena, or there is other extraordinary outside disturbance which could unfairly influence the performance of a test, the test should be stopped by the Chief Judge, and can continue once the object has been removed, or disturbance settled. No new scores will be given for work before the interruption. It is at the discretion of the chief judge at which point the test will be restarted and whether the rider may be requested to represent later at a time to suit the schedule.

## ARTICLE 173 USE OF ARENA

### 1. Competition Arena

- 3.1. With the exception of an OC declaring that an arena is available for use other than for competition, a competitor/horse may only use the competition arenas during their performance in a competition. A competitor/horse will be disqualified for breach of this. (*See Article 155*).
- 3.2. For indoor and special competitions exceptions for use of an arena may be made by the Technical Delegate or the Event Ground Jury. Riders must be notified of any exception being made.
- 3.3. When the Technical Delegate decides that an indoor or all-weather arena does not allow sufficient space for a horse to be ridden around the outside prior to a test, the horse may be permitted to work inside the arena for one minute prior to the commencement of the test. Competitors must remain inside the arena and then turn down the centre line at A when the bell is rung to start the test.
- 3.4. During extreme weather conditions or other extreme situations, the Judge at C may ring the bell for interruption of the Test. The Technical Delegate/Organising Committee may also suggest to the Judge at C to stop the Competition. The affected Athlete should return to complete his/her Test when conditions so permit.

### 2. Arena Familiarisation

- 2.1. It is the OCs discretion to decide that Horses may be ridden in and/ or around the Competition arena at a time designated by the OC in consultation with the Technical Delegate and/or Chief Steward for arena familiarisation. All riders in the same class must be given the same opportunity to work in or around the arena. (Refer to Article 166).

- 2.2. For Grades I, II, III. The trainer/coach or person nominated by the Athlete may do this for Athletes in Grades I, II and III under the conditions of Article 174.5.
  - 2.2.1. Should the Athlete choose to take advantage they must notify the Steward before the nominated person mounts so as to be under observation.
  - 2.2.2. Should it be found that the trainer/coach or person nominated by the Athlete is schooling the Horse, that Horse and its Athlete may be eliminated from the Competition.

### 3. Exercise and Training Areas

- 3.1. OCs should, when possible, include the area around the outside of the competition arenas in the permitted training and working in areas to facilitate familiarisation of the arena surrounds, prior to the commencement of the first scheduled competition at the event.
- 3.2. At Dressage New Zealand events it is good practice that where possible an enclosed warm up area is made available for Grades I, II and III (separate from other dressage competitors). Tape arenas are prohibited at all dressage competitions run under ESNZ Rules for Para Equestrian and Dressage New Zealand, however if a permanently fenced area is not available, a coned, poled or temporary roped area with a minimum height of 0.5 m, is acceptable for a warm up area.

## Article 174 THE SCHOOLING OF HORSES

1. On no account and under penalty of disqualification from the entire event, may any horse take part in a Para Dressage competition which has been schooled by anyone mounted in the saddle other than the competitor nominated, from the official start time as stated in the schedule or if no official time is stated, from midnight preceding the first competition of the Event until the conclusion of the Event unless;
  - 1.1. Horses for Grade I, Grade II, and Grade III may be schooled for up to thirty (30) minutes per day by the trainer/coach/groom or another Athlete designated by the competing Athlete. They must wear an orange armband to identify them. (Refer to Article 179.6). The total time allowed for the above training will be carefully observed and regulated by Stewards. Horses may not be schooled unless an Official Steward is present;
  - 1.2. Horses being competed by Grade I; Grade II and Grade III Athletes may not be trained/schooled by anyone other than the Athlete for the fifteen (15) minutes before they enter the Competition arena to perform their Dressage Test;
  - 1.3. Horses may however be led around with or without the Athlete during the fifteen (15) minutes prior to this but may not be schooled from the ground.
  - 1.4. There is no time limit for riders of any grade riding/schooling their own horse notwithstanding Article 174.8 will apply.
2. Horses for Grade IV and Grade V Athletes may only be schooled by the Athlete competing on that Horse after arrival at the venue under penalty of disqualification (see paragraph 174.1)
3. All schooling for all Grades must take place at an area as designated by the OC and it is to be supervised by stewards.
4. **HACKING.** Notwithstanding paragraph 174.1 a groom, trainer/coach or person nominated by the

Athlete may walk any horse on a long rein and lunging by someone other than the competitor are permitted.

5. **LUNGING.** Horses may be lunged without an Athlete by the Athlete/trainer/coach or their designated representative, but not during the fifteen (15) minutes before entering the Competition arena.
  - 5.1. Single direct side reins or double sliding side reins (triangle/Dreieckzügel) are permitted when lunging. Lunging is allowed with one (1) lunge only;
  - 5.2. On the grounds of safety at all Para-Equestrian Events, riding is not permitted in an arena where lunging is taking place. The lunging of two or more separate horses in the same arena is permitted providing the Steward deems it safe.
6. At multi-discipline events, another rider may compete a horse or pony in another discipline. However, this must not be used as an opportunity for prohibited schooling under penalty of elimination.
7. In all situations above the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse and Article 125 will be adhered to and will be upheld at the discretion of the OC and/or stewards.

#### Article 175 VETERINARY INSPECTIONS & EXAMINATIONS

1. Horse Inspections or Examinations will be conducted in accordance with the appropriate ESNZ and/or FEI GR's when specified in the event schedule.

#### Article 176 SALUTING

1. All Athletes with a current ESNZ Para Equestrian Dressage Classification may salute with head only (SWHO) See also Article 151.13.

#### Article 177 COMPENSATING AIDS & SADDLERY

##### 1. Purpose

- 1.1. Compensating Aids enable the Athlete to ride a horse in dressage. The aid should only be used if required, thereby Athletes should compete with as few aids as possible. The aid must allow the Athlete to compete safely and is safe for the horse and others around the Athlete. The aid should not provide an advantage over another Athlete within the Profile or within the Grade and should not generate performance that is up to the Athlete and the horse.
- 1.2. Subject to the noted provisions, all saddlery and special equipment used in competition shall correspond to that allowed under ESNZ Para Equestrian Dressage Rules Article 177. It is the responsibility of the Athlete to ensure that all special equipment/compensating aids they use in competition meet the requirements under the ESNZ Para Dressage rules, and that any profile-specific compensating aids used are noted for that Athlete on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List. (See also Annex 1).
- 1.3. For Athletes who have/ or who are competing overseas or in FEI sanctioned events it is their responsibility to meet the standards as required of the particular country and or event and vice

versa.

- 1.4. As per Article 483.4 of the rules of Dressage New Zealand, Fully Classified Para-Equestrian Athletes may use the compensating aids listed on their ESNZ Para Equestrian ID Card when competing in able-bodied Dressage NZ classes. It is seen as good practice to submit a copy of the ESNZ Para- Equestrian ID card with the entry form. It is good practice to also produce the card to show Event Officials as requested.
- 1.5. If an Athlete is found or seen to be using any compensating aids/ any other aids not stated on their Card then they will be subject to disqualification as per Article 180.
- 1.6. Any Athletes seen or found abusing or taking advantage of the Para Equestrian's privilege to the use of compensation aids they may be subject to ESNZ Disciplinary Action.

## 2. Compensating Aids Definition

- 2.1. **PROFILE SPECIFIC COMPENSATING** aids are aids or equipment, other than approved saddlery or standard aids (SA), which may be used by nominated profiles after classification evaluation and must be noted on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
- 2.2. **NON-STANDARD COMPENSATING AIDS** are aids, other than those above, required by an individual Athlete and not described specifically in these rules. The aid is prescribed specifically for the Athlete to enable them to ride the horse without providing an advantage over other Athletes within the same Profile or Grade. These aids may include modifications to a standard or profile specific compensating aid, or a piece of non-standard equipment custom made for the Athlete and must be approved by the Chief Classifier after further classification evaluation as per Article 177.2.3. (*See also Annex 1.*) and must be stated on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
- 2.3. The use of a non-standard compensating aid must be approved by the ESNZ Classifier before the event at which it is to be used takes place. Any request must be provided in writing with supporting documentation (medical documentation, aid description, photos etc) at least one week before the start of the event. If approved, it will be added as a compensating aid for that Athlete and added to the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List. (*See also Annex 1*)
- 2.4. **STANDARD COMPENSATING AIDS (SA)** are aids of equipment, other than approved saddlery or equipment as outlined in the ESNZ Dressage Rules, which may be used by the Athletes across all functional profiles. Standard aids are allowed to be used by all Athletes and do not need to be noted on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
- 2.5. All saddlery and special equipment used in competition must correspond to that allowed under ESNZ Para Equestrian and Dressage rules. It is the responsibility of the Athlete to ensure that all special equipment/compensating aids they use in competition meet the requirements under these rules, and that any standard or profile specific compensating aids used are noted for that Athlete on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
- 2.6. ESNZ Standard Aid (SA) List. Approved for the use by all fully classified Para Equestrian riders. The following list is standard aids allowed for all Para Equestrian Athletes in all grades. Refer below for outlines on these aids.



## NZ LIST OF STANDARD COMPENSATION AIDS FOR ALL GRADES

❖ SWHO ( <i>salute with head only</i> )	❖ Sitting or Rising Trot
❖ Gloves – are optional	❖ Double Bridle
❖ Saddle – any English type. ( <i>Any modification or adaptation to a saddle are considered nonstandard compensating aids and must be noted on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List</i> ).	❖ Split reins/ forked reins for Double Bridle
❖ Deep Saddle (12cm or less)	❖ Elastic Inserts in Reins
❖ Enclosed Stirrups	❖ Knotted Reins
❖ Magnetic Stirrups	❖ Soft Hand Hold ( <i>Maximum 10cm from pommel when held, and 30cm width</i> )
❖ Elastic Bands on Stirrups	❖ Breast plate and/or Neck Strap
❖ One Whip ( <i>Maximum 120cm length, with no modifications</i> ) for horses ❖ One Whip (Maximum 100cm) for ponies	❖ Spurs – are optional. ( <i>Offset spurs are a non-standard compensating aid</i> ).
❖ Safety Vest including inflatable	

### 3. Handholds

- 3.1. The use of a soft handhold is allowed for all Athletes. This must be attached to the front of the saddle in front or above the pommel. It must not be more than 10 centimeters (10cm) above the top of the pommel when held. This is a standard aid.
- 3.2. All Athletes may use a neck strap as a hand hold. For this purpose, a breast plate is allowed. This is a standard aid.
- 3.3. Rigid/ fixed hand holds are a profile specific compensation aid. The hard handhold must comply with the same measurement criteria as the soft handhold above. Any deviation from these measurements will be considered a non-standard compensating aid. Rigid hand holds must be stated on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.

### 4. Velcro and Straps

- 4.1. The use of velcro is a profile specific compensation aid and used as per Article 177.2. Velcro may be used on the lower limbs to assist the Athlete in the saddle where there is an identified need as determined by the Athletes functional profile and grade. The use of Velcro must be

recorded on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.

4.2. The total amount of overlapping Velcro, or similar material, used by any Athlete:

4.2.1. Must not exceed fifty square centimetres (50 sq. cm).

4.2.2. Each overlap must not exceed the dimensions of three centimetres by six centimeters (3cm x 6cm).

4.2.3. The total area of overlapping Velcro or similar material per leg must not exceed 3cm wide and 6cm of overlap contact. For safety reasons it is recommended that it is fastened in a V shape.

4.3. A strap from stirrup to girth is a profile specific compensation aid. If classification permits, a strap may be used to attach the stirrup leather to the girth or the stirrup iron to the girth to assist control of the lower leg. This must be stated on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.

4.4. Athletes must not be held in position by any mechanism that does not automatically release in the event of an accident. Any strapping used, such as velcro, leather or elastic, must allow the Athlete to fall free from the horse.

4.5. Adaptations to equipment or velcro or similar materials that assist in the balance of the Athlete may change the Functional Profile of that Athlete and the Athlete may be re-classified, and as a result, may change Grade. (*See Article 156 and Annex I*). The Athlete would then have the option to ride in the higher Grade or not to use such adapted equipment.

## 5. Saddles

5.1. Saddles must be worn and be plain (dressage, show, side saddle, GP or jumping saddle) and must be brown, black, grey or navy. Any modification or adaptation to a saddle must ensure the Athletes safety and must not affect the welfare of the horse especially regarding size, shape and weight.

5.2. Treeless saddles are permitted but must look similar to the above plain saddles. Western style, traditional Iberian or Arabian (with raised pommel and/or cantle) or brightly coloured saddles are not permitted.

5.3. At the halt there must be a clear 3 cm between any means of support and the Athletes trunk. Any adaptations to a saddle must allow the Athlete to fall free of the horse. Any such adaptation must be listed as a Compensating Aid on the Athletes ESNZ Classification Form and on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.

5.4. Deep Saddle. No saddle may be deeper in the seat than 12 cm with the seat pressed down. This is measured from the middle of a line from the top of the pommel to the top of the cantle. Any modification or adaptation to the saddle must be noted on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List as a compensating aid.

5.5. Seat savers are allowed. Seat savers must be dark coloured and only cover the seat of the saddle.

## 6. Stirrups

6.1. Athletes with one (1) leg may ride with one (1) stirrup. If the Athlete rides with a prosthesis two (2) stirrups must be used.

- 6.2. Athletes within nominated Profiles may ride without stirrups if required. This must be stated on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List as a Profile Specific Compensating Aid for that Athlete.
- 6.3. Stirrup leathers and English style stirrups or safety stirrups are compulsory and must be attached to the saddle and used in the conventional way. Stirrups must either be magnetic or have closed branches, and no attachments unless otherwise stated on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
- 6.4. Nonmagnetic stirrups must have closed branches, and no attachments. Safety stirrups must have closed branches either solid or a removeable band which must be used.
- 6.5. Magnetic stirrups may have an open side but must be used as intended with the corresponding magnetic polarity inside or as part of the sole of the Athletes regulation footwear. (Refer to Article 179). Open sided magnetic stirrups may be used either open to the outside or the inside. Magnetic stirrups are a standard aid.
- 6.6. To prevent the possibility of the foot sliding through the stirrup, stirrups may be closed at the front (enclosed stirrups). This is a standard aid.
- 6.7. Elastic rubber bands may be used to keep the feet in the stirrup. Such elastic must be of a width and strength to allow the Athlete to fall free of the horse. One rubber band may be used per stirrup. (Refer to Article 177.1). This is a standard aid.

## 7. Saddle Cloths

- 7.1. The saddle cloth if used, should be predominantly plain. The “Official Orange ESNZ Para Equestrian Badges” (Refer to Article 158) must be displayed on the rear corner of each side. It is optional to attach the horses identification number also on the rear corner on each side of the saddle blanket or to attach the numbers to the bridle using the “Bridle Numbers” as available from Dressage New Zealand.
- 7.2. Saddle cloths bearing the New Zealand Flag or Silver Fern may only be worn by a competitor who is officially representing New Zealand and has been presented with either to wear. These must be removed at all other times.
- 7.3. Sponsors or commercial logos are permitted on saddlecloths subject to ESNZ General Regulations Articles 124,125 & Annex E 2.3.1 of DNZ rules. While present in the Competition area and during the prize-giving ceremonies:
  - 7.3.1. the name and/or logo of the Athletes sponsor(s), may appear on a surface area not exceeding two hundred square centimetres (200cm<sup>2</sup>) on each side of saddle cloth.
  - 7.3.2. the names or logos identifying a non-sponsoring manufacturer of the clothing, equipment may appear only once per item of clothing, equipment and solely on a surface area not exceeding (3 cm<sup>2</sup>) (maximum on centimetres - 1cm high, maximum three centimetres - 3cm wide) for clothing and equipment.

## 8. Bridles

- 8.1. Refer to the Rules of Dressage New Zealand Article 478 for permitted saddlery. All saddles, bridles, bits and gear specified in these rules are to be observed in ESNZ Para Equestrian dressage.
- 8.2. A plain snaffle bridle or double bridle is required to be used with a regular cavesson noseband.

With the plain snaffle bridle a dropped noseband, a flash noseband, a crossed noseband, a combined noseband or a Micklem or similar design of bridle may be used. The Micklem or similar bridle must be used with a permitted bit and without bit clips.

- 8.3. Except for the buckles and padding the headstall and noseband must be made entirely of leather or leather-like material. Padding is allowed on bridles. Nylon or other non-metal material may be used to reinforce leather in the headstall but must not be in direct contact with the Horse. Elastic inserts are permitted in the crownpiece and cheek pieces only and must not be in direct contact with the Horse or the bit.
- 8.4. The use of a noseband on the bridle is optional at all levels
  - 8.4.1. Introductory to Medium: A plain snaffle bridle is required to be used. A noseband is not compulsory but if a noseband is used it must be a regular cavesson noseband, a dropped noseband, a flash noseband, a crossed noseband, a combined noseband or a Micklem or similar design of bridle. The Micklem or similar bridle must be used with a permitted bit and without bit clips.
  - 8.4.2. Advanced Medium to Grand Prix: A plain snaffle or double bridle with the exception that the National Dressage selectors may require a horse or pony to be ridden in an FEI test in a simple double bridle where the FEI test would require this if the test was ridden under FEI rules for Dressage. A noseband is optional for FEI tests under national rules.
- 8.5. The crownpiece of the bridle must lie immediately behind the poll and may extend forward onto the poll but must not be fitted to lie behind the skull.
- 8.6. A throatlatch is required except when the combined noseband or Micklem noseband are used.
- 8.7. Martingales, blinkers, side, balancing, running, bearing and similar reins are forbidden. Any rein adaptation that produces a similar effect to these forbidden reins is not permitted.
- 8.8. A double bridle must have a cavesson noseband, bridoon and curb with curb chain. A combined noseband may be used without the lower “flash” strap. The curb chain can be made of metal, leather or a combination. Lip strap and rubber, leather or sheepskin cover for curb chain are optional. Neither a cavesson nose band nor a curb chain may ever be as tightly fixed so as to harm the Horse.
- 8.9. A plain snaffle bridle is required to be used with a regular cavesson noseband, a dropped noseband, a flash noseband, a crossed noseband, a combined noseband or as a Micklem (or similar design) bridle.
- 8.10. At any level of competition, a noseband may never be so tightly fixed that it causes harm to the Horse, and must be checked as per the Stewards Manual noseband protocol.
- 8.11. Bridles must be predominantly black, brown, grey or navy and may not be decorated with tassels or any additions to the normal configuration.
- 8.12. “Official Orange ESNZ Para Equestrian Badges” and ESNZ Identification Numbers must be worn at all events. See Article 158.

## 9. Bits

- 9.1. Please refer to the rules of Dressage New Zealand Article 477 and Annex 1 for permitted bits.

## 10. Reins

- 10.1. A rein is a continuous, uninterrupted strap or line from the bridle bit to the hand. Each bit must be attached to a separate rein and reins may only be attached to the bit so that the reins can freely glide. Reins must not be made of rope or rope-like material.
- 10.2. Any rein from any bit in the horse's mouth must be in direct contact with the Athlete. This means that if riding in a double bridle the two reins on one side must either both go to the Athletes hand(s) or be connected into one rein before reaching the Athlete. Foot reins are only allowed when no other reins are going to be controlled by arm(s) or hand(s)/fingers from the upper part of the body of the Athlete.
- 10.3. If the rein is not used in a conventional manner, it must be in as straight a line as possible from the Athletes point of contact on the reins to the horse's mouth. For Athletes with two very short arms reins may be run through rings that are attached to the front of the saddle by leather straps. These rings must not be in a fixed position but shall be loose. Athletes using such rings must have details noted on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
- 10.4. Split reins, forked reins may be used on a double bridle. This is a standard aid.
- 10.5. Elastic inserts or elastic reins may be used. This is a standard aid.
- 10.6. Knotted reins are reins that have been knotted in a single knot to minimize slipping. Each rein may only have one knot to consist of one twist/tie of the rein. This is a standard aid. Any larger knots, or more knots in each rein or any other additions such as notches, tabs, large knobs are profile specific compensation aids and must be stated on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
- 10.7. Ladder reins, bridged reins, connecting rein bars, connected reins, looped reins or any other rein arrangement or addition are profile specific compensation aids and must be listed on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List after classification evaluation.
- 10.8. In the aspect of safety, all fully classified Athletes may use a piece of very thin elastic (shirring elastic or plaiting band thickness easily broken by hand) to attach the buckle end of the reins to the D ring of the saddle or hand hold to stop the reins falling down the horse's neck if dropped. The manner in which this is attached must not affect the use of the reins in any way or cause any contact with the horse's mouth whatsoever. The minimum length must be no less than 10cm and attached in only one thickness. This is allowed in NZ competition only and is classed as a non-standard compensation aid.**

## 11. Whips.

- 11.1. All Athletes may use one (1) whip (a total maximum length of one hundred twenty centimetres (120cm) for horses or one hundred centimetres (100cm) for ponies. This is a standard aid.
- 11.2. Two whips are a profile specific compensation aid. Athletes with permission to use two whips must have it listed on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
- 11.3. Any alteration to a conventional or a curved whip must be approved by an ESNZ Classifier as a non-standard compensating aid and must be stated on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List for that Athlete.
- 11.4. Upon arrival at the event grounds only:
  - 11.4.1. The rider when riding, walking, leading or lunging a horse (lunge whip allowed), is allowed to carry a whip as permitted under Article 478.1 anywhere on the event grounds.

11.4.2. The groom may also walk, lead and lunge a horse as above.

11.4.3. Other parties are allowed to carry a whip, provided it is not in connection with the training of the horse.

12. If, at an event, a TD determines a rider has breached Article 177.11.1 and the rider has not yet entered the competition arena, the rider will be issued with a warning by the TD. However, if at the same event, the same rider on the same horse is found to be in breach of Article 177.11.1 by the TD the rider and horse will be disqualified from all remaining competitions they are entered in at the event.

### 13. Spurs

- 13.1. Spurs are not compulsory in any competition run under ESNZ Para Equestrian Rules.
- 13.2. Spurs if worn must be made of metal. The shank must be either curved or straight pointing directly back from the centre of the spur when on the Athletes boot.
- 13.3. Off-set spurs are a non-standard compensation aid. If classification evaluation permits this must be listed on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
- 13.4. Any spur that has a curved shank must be worn with the curve down. Exception: Goose or swan neck spurs. (Diagram 1) The arms of the spur must be smooth. If rowels are used, they must be free to rotate. Spurs of the type shown below (Diagram 2) are allowed, as long as the rowel is blunt/smooth. Fixed rowels and sharp edges on spurs are not allowed. Refer to 177.13.8.
- 13.5. Metal spurs with round hard plastic knobs are allowed. ("impuls spur").
- 13.6. 'Dummy' spurs with no shanks are allowed.
- 13.7. Athletes abusing the horse with the spurs whether intentionally or not may be asked to remove spurs by the Technical Delegate, Chief Steward or President of the Ground Jury.
- 13.8. Please refer to the Dressage NZ rule book Article 479.3 for images of "Spurs Allowed" in Para Equestrian competition.

### 14. Other Equipment

- 14.1. Ear hoods are permitted for events and may also provide noise reduction. However, ear hoods must not cover the horse's eyes and ear plugs are not permitted with the exception of Article 177.14.2. The ear hoods should be discreet in colour and design.
- 14.2. Ear plugs are allowed at Prize Giving Ceremonies and any official horse inspection.
- 14.3. Nose nets may be used, but must be discreet and must not cover the mouth of the horse (see diagram Page 68 of the Dressage NZ Rules)
- 14.4. Decoration - Any decoration of the horse with unnatural items, such as ribbons or flowers, etc. in the tail, etc., is strictly forbidden.
- 14.5. A horse may have its mane and tail plaited for competition but may not be decorated with extravagant decorations. A horse may wear a ribbon in its tail as follows;
- 14.5.1. A green ribbon to indicate that the horse is inexperienced at competitions and the rider would appreciate if other competitors and spectators moved quietly around that horse;
- 14.6. A red ribbon to indicate that the horse is prone to kicking and caution should be taken around

that horse.

14.7. False tails are permitted. False tails may not contain any metal parts, except for hooks and eyelets.

14.8. Newmarket/ lunge attachments must be used for horses/ ponies that require a lead to be attached to the bridle. For example, prizegiving or being led while mounted. When a lead rein is required to be used it must be attached to both bit rings.



*Examples of Newmarket attachments permitted.*

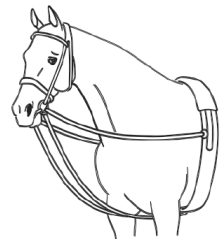
14.9. Martingales, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins etc.), any kind of boots (Exception: Hoof boots as in 177.14.10) or bandages, any form of blinkers, shadow blinds, masks, hoods or bonnets, and ear plugs (exception prizegivings & horse inspections), are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden.

14.10. Black or brown hoof boots are permitted. They must be low profile and not to cover the coronet band or the heels of the horse. Refer to the rules of Dressage New Zealand Annex 1 for examples of approved hoof boots.

14.11. Breastplates are permitted.

14.11.1. Article 177 applies at all times from arrival on the event grounds except that a running martingale with snaffle bridle only and boots and bandages are permitted when training or warming up.

14.12. When lunging, single direct side reins, or double sliding side reins (triangle) are permitted. Lunging is allowed with one lunge line only. It is not permitted to ride a horse or pony while it is being lunged or to ride in single direct side reins or double sliding (triangle/ dreieck zügel) side reins. (pictured).



*Double sliding side reins (triangle/dreieck zügel) Permitted for lunging.*

14.13. In the interests of promoting safety in the sport, ESNZ Para Equestrian may from time to time approve the use of a particular type of device, mechanism, item of saddlery or apparel, which is designed or intended to enhance the safety of the competitor. Safety Items approved by ESNZ Para Equestrian will be gazetted by publication on the ESNZ/Para Equestrian website and a schedule of Approved Safety Equipment will be maintained by ESNZ Para Equestrian.

14.14. Mounting blocks if required are to be supplied by the Athlete. It is not the OC's or venue's responsibility to supply mounting equipment. If customized mounting blocks are required in the competition/ warm-up area it is the Athletes responsibility to organise placement of their blocks with the OC and/or Stewards prior to any competition starting. It will be at the Stewards discretion of where the blocks will be placed and when.

## 15. Checking saddlery

15.1. For ESNZ Para-Equestrian National events and Championship events a Steward must be appointed to check the saddlery of each horse immediately after it leaves the arena. Any

discrepancy will be reported to the Judge at C and will result in elimination. All other events a Steward is strongly recommended to be appointed and may check an Athlete at any time during the competition. See Article 155

15.2. The checking of the bridle must be done with the greatest caution (see FEI Manual for Para-Equestrian Dressage Stewards).

15.3. The Steward must use disposable surgical gloves when checking the bit (one pair of gloves per horse).

15.4. The Ground Jury at any Dressage NZ event may check saddlery and Compensating Aids against the Para-Equestrian Athletes ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List immediately after he/she leaves the arena.

## Article 179 DRESS

1. Dress for ESNZ Para Equestrian Dressage attire is aligned with rules of Dressage New Zealand Article 479 – Dress and is observed for:
  - 1.1. All Para Equestrian classes at Training Events (TE) & Local Events (LE) (all levels graded & non-graded).
  - 1.2. All Para Equestrian classes at Regional Events (RE) & National (NCH) (all levels graded & non-graded).
  - 1.3. Unless otherwise stated in the event schedule.
2. A properly fitted, securely fastened, correctly maintained helmet meeting the current ESNZ tagging standards MUST be worn at all times when mounted on the Event grounds.
3. Gloves are not compulsory in Para Equestrian Dressage but if worn must be white, off white, black or same colour as jacket.
4. Long tailcoats are not permitted in any Grade. Cutaway and short tailcoats are allowed.
5. An arm band, provided by the Athlete, in a HIGH VIZ yellow, green or pink must be worn at all times by all Athletes with a visual impairment profile while mounted at any time during the Competition.
6. An arm band, provided by the Athlete, in the ESNZ Para Equestrian Orange colour must be worn at all times horses when being schooled by anyone other than the Athlete.

## Article 180 PENALTIES FOR CONTRAVENING ARTICLES 177

1. Please also refer to the rules of Dressage New Zealand for penalties for contravening the saddlery and dress articles of these rules. Article 480.
2. The penalty for competing with incorrect saddlery/ gear is elimination.
3. The penalty for competing with any Compensating Aids not stated for the Athlete on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List is elimination.
4. The penalty for competing with the incorrect use of a permitted compensating aid is the deduction of ten (10) percentage points from the final total percentage mark.



#### **Article 181      PENALTIES FOR CONTRAVENING ARTICLE 179 - DRESS**

1. Please refer to the rules of Dressage New Zealand for penalties for contravening the saddlery and dress articles of these rules. Article 481.

#### **Article 182      COMPETING "HORS CONCOURS"**

1. A horse may be permitted to take part in a competition "Hors Concours" in any Para Equestrian Grade.
2. Permission must be obtained from the OC. The Organising Committee may withhold permission at their discretion without being obliged to give reasons.
3. Horses may not compete "Hors Concours" at National or other Named Events, or other events at the discretion of ESNZ Para Equestrian or Dressage NZ.
4. The Athlete/ horse combination is subject to the rules as if he were a competitor in the competition in question, except as provided for in this rule.
5. Full entry fee must be paid but the competitor is not entitled to any prize or prize money or grading points.

#### **Article 183      ATHLETES REQUIRING DISPENSATIONS TO COMPETE IN DNZ CLASSES**

1. Refer also to Article 162.7.
2. Fully Classified ESNZ Para Equestrian Dressage riders will automatically be accredited with compensating aids as per their official classification card, but should apply to ESNZ Dressage for any additional dispensations required. Refer to Article 483 of the rules of Dressage New Zealand.

#### **Article 184      TECHNICAL DELEGATES & EVENT STEWARDS**

1. ESNZ Para Equestrian recommends:
  - 1.1. that Organising Committees appoint a suitably experienced person who should be a national judge to act as Technical Delegate for all major events;
  - 1.2. that Organising Committees appoint an Event Steward or Stewards whose duties will be those listed in ESNZ GR's governing "Stewards" and "Technical Delegates."
2. At events run by Dressage New Zealand any Para Equestrian riders come under the jurisdiction of the DNZ appointed Technical Delegate.

#### **Article 185      PRESENTATION OF PRIZES**

1. In most cases, prizes will be presented to the winning Athletes unmounted, but riders must be correctly attired as for the Dressage Test.
2. For horses at mounted or unmounted prize giving, dress and saddlery must be the same as permitted for the competition, however white or black boots or bandages are allowed.
3. For mounted prize giving horses in Grades I, II & III must have a capable support person present

with a suitable lead attachment to affix quickly to the bit if required. It is highly recommended that Grades IV and V also have a support person in attendance.

4. If organisers require riders, mounted or unmounted, to attend the presentation of prizes then this must be stated in the Schedule and repeated in the Programme or Scoreboard Notice.
5. Each prize must be collected by the winner in person. Any prize not collected by the winner shall be forfeited at the discretion of the Organising Committee.
6. Any rider requiring dispensation from this rule must notify the Organising Committee within reasonable time before the prize giving. The dispensation may be granted at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

#### Article 186 ATHLETE/ HORSE/ PONY INELIGIBILITY FOR EVENTS OR COMPETITIONS.

1. In the case of an Event organiser discovering an error/s in results the following will apply:
  - 1.1. Should a competitor or horse/pony be found to be ineligible for an Event, competition, championship or series from the official start time of the Event, up to and including 60 days after the Event, all prize money, sashes/rosettes and any other prize awards must be returned to the Event OC so they can be redistributed. Any championship, qualifying or series points or scores gained will also be corrected.
  - 1.2. Any prizes, series, championship or qualifying points or scores deducted for ineligibility of competitor or horse/pony cannot be regained for that event or competition even if the reason that caused the disqualification is later rectified and backdated. Any grading points gained will stay on the horse/pony's competition record.
2. Should an Event OC discover at any time from the official start time of the Event up to and including 60 days after the Event, that a mistake has been made in competition results, championships, series or qualifying points or scores awards they may request any prize money, ribbons and any other awards be returned so they can be redistributed. Any championship, qualifying or series points or scores awarded must also be corrected.

#### Article 188 INTERRUPTION

1. In case of any technical failure that will interfere with the competition, the Judge at C shall ring the bell. It is recommended that in clear cases of external disturbance, the same procedure is applied.
2. In the case of an Athletes music failing during a Freestyle Test see Article 171.3.6.
3. If an Athlete has to restart an ordinary test, he/she can choose to start from the beginning of the test or from where stopped. Any scores given before the interruption remain.

#### Article 191 EARPHONES, ELECTRONIC DEVICES, COMMANDERS & CALLERS

*Definitions: **Commanders** read a Test. **Callers** call out the letters to those Athletes with classified visual impairment who need this assistance. Callers may be human or electronic beeps.*

1. Commanders and Callers are Profile Specific aids and must be stated on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List except for local (LE) and training (TE) level events where all Athletes may

use a commander if they so wish.

2. Athletes who wish to have a commander must apply to the ESNZ Para Equestrian Chief Classifier for permission, clearly stating the reason for the need and providing supporting documentation. Permission to use a commander must be stated on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List.
3. Athletes shall have no more than one (1) commander who shall stand in a fixed position outside the arena at E or B, or if this is not possible, stand as directed by the Judge at C.
4. All Commanders must be supervised by a Steward who must remain within hearing distance to the Commander.
5. The Commander may read each movement once or twice only, from the official printed. text version of the Test or extracts there from (without any augmentation). Refer to Article 152.
6. Commanders may not carry a whip.
7. Under penalty of elimination, the use of earphones by riders are strictly forbidden at all ESNZ Para Equestrian dressage events when competing with the exception:
  - 7.1. Earphones are permitted during training and warm up and must be removed before entering the competition arena area.
  - 7.2. All Athletes who have been allowed a commander or caller/s as a compensating aid on the ESNZ Para Equestrian Classification Master List are permitted to use a headset during all tests. See below.
  - 7.3. In the above (191.1.2), it is the responsibility of the Athlete to provide a fully functioning headset with an extra receiver to enable the steward to listen to all communication going from the coach/helper to the Athlete. If this is not the case, the Athlete will not be permitted to use the equipment and must ride the test without it.
8. CALLERS. Please see Annex 3.

## ANNEX I. PARA EQUESTRIAN CLASSIFICATION

The ESNZ Para Classification process is directed by the FEI and International Paralympics Committee and therefore as a National Federation (NF) is subject to the Rules for National Classification as specified in the FEI PARA EQUESTRIAN CLASSIFICATION RULES

### Classifiers

1. A Classifier is a person authorised as an official and certified by the FEI to conduct some or all components of Athlete Evaluation as a member of a Classification Panel.
2. An ESNZ Para-Equestrian Classifier is a Physiotherapist or Medical Practitioner who has attended and passed the FEI Para-Equestrian Classification Course.
3. A list of Para Equestrian Classifiers qualified to classify nationally in New Zealand is maintained by ESNZ and Paralympics NZ.
4. Protests against Classification:
  - 4.1. All classification protests and appeals should be dealt with in accordance with the FEI Classification Manual.

### National Classification

1. All Para-Equestrian Athletes in New Zealand must in the first instance, be classified by the National Federation of Equestrian Sports New Zealand before competing as a Para Equestrian Athlete.
2. An Athlete seeking Para Equestrian classification should apply to the ESNZ Head Office.
3. Once Classified, Athletes will then be eligible to compete with an ESNZ Para-Equestrian status if:
  - 3.1. You achieve a Full or Provisional Classification.
    - 3.1.1. A Full Classification allocates the Athlete a Functional Profile and Grade and enables the Athlete to use their compensation aids and Para Equestrian status to compete in Para Equestrian and ESNZ events in NZ.
    - 3.1.2. A provisional classification may be issued for 12 months and only allows Athletes to compete in local events. It is the Athletes responsibility to be "Fully Classified" within the 12 months or the Para Equestrian status is removed.
  - 3.2. The Athlete must be a financial member of ESNZ for the Para Equestrian classification to be active;
    - 3.2.1. Full Riding Membership allows Athletes if applicable to compete in all levels of Para Equestrian events including Nationals and HOY.
    - 3.2.2. Introductory ESNZ Membership allows Athletes to compete in Training (TE) and Local (LE) events.
4. An assessment for classification will be undertaken by an approved ESNZ or FEI Para Equestrian Classifier.
  - 4.1. This involves presenting your medical files/ history and an interview. To achieve Full Classification the Athlete must undertake a Formal Classification which will involve a "Bench" test, and a riding observation, to be assigned the Profile and the subsequent Grade allocated.

- 4.2. Visually Impaired Athletes will be co-classified by the ESNZ Classifier in conjunction with a Paralympics NZ blind sport specialist. Refer to Annex 3.
5. Each newly classified PE rider will receive a copy of their classification showing their Profile, Grade, Grade status (Full or Prov.) and Profile Specific Compensating Aids allowed. For details on profiles, grades and status, refer to <https://inside.fei.org/fei/disc/para-dressage/classification>.
6. All Classified PE Athletes will have their Name, Profile, Grade and Profile Specific Compensation Aids allowed recorded and stored on:
  - 6.1. The ESNZ Para-Equestrian Classification Master List.
  - 6.2. The ESNZ Member Database
  - 6.3. EvoEvents

### International Classification

1. Any current Para Equestrian Athlete seeking FEI classification, must apply through their National Federation (NF) of Equestrian Sports NZ (ESNZ) and meet all FEI guidelines for eligibility and timelines. Refer to the FEI website for more information.
1. Any Athlete if already with FEI Classification status who requires FEI Medical Review, must apply through the National Federation of ESNZ.
2. Classification for International competitions must be carried out by two FEI internationally accredited Para-Equestrian Classifiers. Two Classifiers may do the classification together or separately, but one of them must be from a different nation to that of the Athlete.

## ANNEX 2. CATEGORIES OF PARA EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE EVENTS & SCHEDULING IN NEW ZEALAND

Also refer to ESNZ General Regulations, Chapter I: Art 102 & Chapter Two (Events and Competitions).

Any Para Dressage event scheduled as a CPEDI/ International is not governed by these sport rules and instead are subject to the FEI Rules of Para Dressage and the specific conditions required of an event of international status.

### 1. Training event (TE).

- 1.1. Is an Event held with the purpose of providing a training environment and practice opportunity for Horses and riders.
- 1.2. Non-graded competition only. (Refer to Article 161)
- 1.3. Para Equestrian Grades can be combined into one class and either one test allocated to which each Grade will ride their specific version or scheduled as a TOC.
- 1.4. Provisional Classification may enter this event.
- 1.5. ESNZ Introductory/ Child or Full Riding or Day membership is required.
- 1.6. Horses may be unregistered.
- 1.7. Tests may be commanded for all Athletes.
- 1.8. Para Equestrian classes should be scheduled as Para TOC. (Test of Choice).
- 1.9. Tests used: For TOC, Athletes may ride either the test for their grade or choose to ride a higher level from the following:
  - 1.9.1.FEI Novice A/ B
  - 1.9.2.FEI Intermediate A/ B
  - 1.9.3.FEI Grand Prix A/B.
- 1.10. In a TE class it is Athletes discretion to choose which PE test they ride. But by upholding the ESNZ Code of Conduct, the spirit of fairplay and in the goodwill of competition it is expected that the Athlete will ride a test at the level they, the combination, are deemed capable of if not higher.

### 2. Local event (LE).

- 2.1. Non graded and / or graded competitions.
- 2.2. Grades can be combined into one class and one test scheduled to which each Grade will ride their specific version.
- 2.3. Provisional Classification may enter this level.
- 2.4. ESNZ Introductory or Full Financial Membership required and Horses must be registered for graded competition. For non-graded classes see Training Level Event (TE).

- 2.5. Tests may be commanded for all Athletes.
- 2.6. Para Equestrian classes may be scheduled as Para TOC.
- 2.7. Tests used: Athletes may ride either the test for their grade from the following:
  - 2.7.1.FEI Novice A/ B
  - 2.7.2.FEI Intermediate A/ B
  - 2.7.3.FEI Grand Prix A/ B /Musical Freestyle

### 3. Regional event (RE).

- 3.1. Graded competition only.
- 3.2. Island Championships are considered to be REGIONAL Events.
- 3.3. RE Championships will be contended at Grand Prix level and are considered "Qualifying Events".
  - 3.3.1. Novice and Intermediate levels may also be included at the discretion of the OC and scheduled as classes only or be scheduled as a Novice and/or Intermediate Championship as per the conditions below. (3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9)
- 3.4. Where possible each of the five (5) Grades should have an individual championship. If this is not viable then Grades can be combined into one class and one FEI test allocated to which each Grade will ride their specific version.
  - 3.4.1. Should the Grades be combined, the class must run consecutively with the same GJ.
  - 3.4.2. Should the Grades be combined towards an overall Championship individual placings should be acknowledged for each Grade.
- 3.5. Should Para Equestrian Grades be combined the overall Championship will be awarded on a total of each combination's percentages.
- 3.6. Individual Grade Championships can be awarded and calculated by the discretion of the OC but in good practice should align with Dressage New Zealand.
- 3.7. Individual Grade Championships can be timetabled (also refer to paragraph 5) at the discretion of the OC.
- 3.8. Para Equestrian Championships will be contended over a minimum of 2 but preferably all 3 FEI tests for the Grade. The tests may be scheduled in any order at the discretion of the OC.
- 3.9. Tests used will be the current version of the FEI for the relevant level and grade.
- 3.10. Full Classification & ESNZ Child/ Full Financial Membership is required and Horses must be registered.

#### 4. National & other Named events.

- 4.1. The National Dressage Championships Event & Horse of the Year Show (Para Equestrian Dressage section) are considered as National Events.
- 4.2. Prior qualification will be required as per Article 163.
- 4.3. Each of the 5 Grand Prix Grades must have an individual championship.
- 4.4. Championship points can be awarded and calculated at the discretion of the OC but in good practice should align with Dressage New Zealand.
- 4.5. Para Equestrian Grand Prix Championships should be contended over all 3 FEI Grand Prix tests.
- 4.6. Para Equestrian Grand Prix classes will be scheduled as:
  - 4.6.1. Grade I, II, III, IV, V FEI Grand Prix A
  - 4.6.2. Grade I, II, III, IV, V FEI Grand Prix B or FEI Grand Prix Musical Freestyle
  - 4.6.3. Grade I, II, III, IV, V FEI Grand Prix Musical Freestyle or FEI Grand Prix B
- 4.7. ESNZ Para Equestrian in conjunction with ESNZ Dressage NZ may establish other named events as may be permitted under the ESNZ GRs.
- 4.8. All ESNZ Dressage National and Named Events must be organised under the General Regulations and Venue Regulations of ESNZ or the FEI, including where applicable, the provisions of Article 106.
- 4.9. The conditions proposed by the OC of North Island, South Island, NZ National Para Equestrian Dressage Championships and NZ Horse of the Year Show (Para Equestrian Dressage section) must be submitted to ESNZ Para Equestrian Technical Committee for prior approval
- 4.10. All ESNZ Dressage National and Named event must comply with the ESNZ code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse.

#### 5. Scheduling

When scheduling Para Equestrian classes at Dressage NZ events or Para Equestrian events it is good practice to:

- 5.1. To schedule the long arena grades (IV & V) and short arena grades (I, II, III) together to minimise any disruption caused by the lengthening or shortening of the arena. The order of the Grades is at the discretion of the OC.
- 5.2. To schedule arena lengthening and shortening. An arena can be shortened or lengthened in ten (10) mins or less with two capable people.
- 5.3. In the interest of the Athletes safety to schedule the Grades I, II, III classes at quieter times of the day if possible.
- 5.4. If possible, try not to schedule Grade I, II, III Athletes too early in the day due to the nature of their impairments and requirements for support people.
- 5.5. Schedule ten (10) minute time slots for Grades I, II, III to allow for accurate warm-up and ride



times. Due to the nature of the impairments in these lower Grades, Athletes at times are limited to the amount of time they can spend mounted and may be subject to schooling rules.

- 5.6. In combined Grade or individual grade classes, competition should run consecutively with morning/ afternoon tea and lunch breaks as required.
- 5.7. At events with both disciplines of ESNZ Classified Para Equestrian and Dressage NZ. Athletes are required to choose between competing in able-bodied Dressage New Zealand competition or ESNZ Para Equestrian classes.
  - 5.7.1. Where one or more ESNZ Events are Scheduled to be held at the same venue, at the same time (*together*) a combination can only participate in one Event.
- 5.8. No Para Equestrian Athlete may compete with more than two (2) horses at an event. Should the Athlete wish to compete two horses in their Grade it is at the OCs discretion to accept the second entry or decline.
  - 5.8.1. At no time should the second horse cause other competitors to be disadvantaged. Both horses should compete without disrupting the flow of the class or the publishing of results and should the draw not be able to reflect this then the OC should advise the Athlete who can then choose whether to compete to the draw conditions or withdraw.
  - 5.8.2. This applies also to shared horses. It is the Athletes responsibility to have the required equipment/ saddlery and support people to meet draw or scheduling requirements.

## ANNEX 3 VISUALLY IMPAIRED ATHLETES

1. Classification for Functional Profiles 36 (B1) and 37 (B2) must be carried out by an ophthalmologist or optical doctor in conjunction with the ESNZ Chief Classifier.
2. An arm band, provided by the Athlete, in a HIGH VIZ yellow, green or pink must be worn at all times by all Athletes with a visual impairment profile while mounted at any time during the Competition.
3. If visually impaired Athletes require larger markers, they must provide them or organise them themselves. If large markers are used, they must be placed immediately prior to the Athletes test and removed immediately afterwards.
4. It is not always possible, but considered good practice, for an arena to be made available for visually impaired/blind Athletes (Profile 36 & 37a) to train alone. If possible, these arenas should be of the same consistency as the competition arena footing.
5. All visually impaired/blind Athletes may start the test from within the arena.
6. Athletes classified with visual impairment may use a caller/ callers (which may be human or electronic) to call out the letters to those Athletes classified P36 (B1) or P37a (B2) who need this assistance.
7. Callers may only call the name of the letter(s).
8. Only the lead caller (who may also Command where approved. See Article 152) may be in the centre of the arena and may not move around except for a safe distance to avoid the path of the Horse.
9. All other Callers must be positioned outside the arena, and may move from one marker to another, provided they do not restrict the vision of any of the Judges. There shall be no more than thirteen (13) Callers, but Athletes with classified visual impairment are encouraged to use as few Callers as possible.
10. The Caller at C may be exchanged for a beacon beeper which is to be provided by the Athlete. The OC must be notified if electronic callers are being used and the set-up of such devices must not affect the running of the competition, nor cause any disturbance to other Athletes.

## ANNEX 4. ATHLETES COMPETING IN FOREIGN FEI EVENTS

1. The High-Performance Board of ESNZ and the Para Equestrian national selectors reserve the right to determine the criteria required to qualify for Invitational / Foreign FEI events.
2. These rules also apply to overseas based riders who must qualify at equivalent overseas based national events.
3. Freestyle scores do not qualify.
4. Should a combination not have met these criteria, the National Selectors reserve their right, at their discretion, to waive the set criteria.
5. For any other level of any event, the Athlete should contact ESNZ Head Office.

## ANNEX 5. FEI LIST OF COMPENSATION AIDS

### Standard and Non Standard Compensating Aids

Compensating Aids or allowance	Refer to Rule number for full details	Who can use it	Included on Classification Master List Yes/No
<b>Standard Compensating aids (listed below)</b>		Standard aids,equipment allowed as described in the FEI PE Dressage rules January 2016	See below
Voice	8418.3	As Determined through Classification process	No
Salute with head only	8430.1	All athletes	No
Sitting or rising trot	8404.5	All athletes	No
Gloves optional	8427.6	All athletes	No
Spurs optional	8427.8	All athletes	No
Offset spurs	8427.9	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Electronic communication devices	8427.8 8430.14.3	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Saddle-any type	8428.4.1	All athletes	No
Deep saddle	8428.4.1	All athletes	No
Raised pommel or cantle	8428.4.1	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Seat saver	N/A	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Soft (flexible) hand hold	8428.4.2	All athletes	No
Hard (firm) hand hold	8428.4.2	As determined through Classification process	Yes
1 whip	8428.6	All athletes	No
2 whips	8428.6	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Non conventional or curved whip	8428.6	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Breast plate and/or neck strap	8428.7.1	All athletes	No
Reins, including split rein on double bridle	8428.7.1 8428.7.2	All athletes	No
Foot reins	8428.7.1	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Loop reins	N/A	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Connecting rein bar	N/A	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Reins through ring on saddle	8428.7.2	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Elastic inserts in reins	8428.7.1	All athletes	No
Velcro - amount	8428.7.4.1	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Strap stirrup leather or stirrup iron to girth	8428.7.5	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Elastic bands on stirrups	8428.7.7	All athletes	No
Magnetic stirrups	8428.7.7	All athletes	No
Enclosed stirrups	8428.7.8	All athletes	No
No stirrups	8428.7.8	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Commander (to call the test)	8430.14.2	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Use of sign language	8430.14.3	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Callers (for athletes with Visual impairment)	8430.14.8	As determined through Classification process	Yes
Beacon beeper	8430.14.8	As determined through Classification process	Yes
safety vests including inflatable	8428.7.5	All athletes	No
<b>Non standard compensating aids</b>	8427.1	Aids or equipment not described above. Must be approved by the FEI Compensating Aids Panel and supported through Classification process	Yes

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