

## Rule Changes Dressage NZ Conference July 2020 Effective 1 August 2020

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### Art 402: HALT & SALUTE

At the salute, Athletes must take the reins in one hand. The head should be bowed while the other arm is held straight down to the side. In the case of two or more judges officiating on the competition, the salute is taken by the Chief Judge only. A whip may be held in either hand at the salute

### Art 461: ELIGIBILITY OF HORSES & PONIES

#### New Para 4.2

- a) The age of all horses and ponies entered for Young Dressage Horse or Pony Classes must be verified by evidence to prove the age of the horse or pony
- b) Horses wishing to qualify to represent ESNZ at the FEI World Breeding Championships for Young Dressage Horses must be registered with a stud book recognized by the WBFSH.

Note: Further detailed information re verification will be referenced Young Dressage Horse Guidelines

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### Art 479: DRESS

#### Jackets

Riding jackets are optional at Training & Local Events at all levels.  
Riding Jackets are compulsory at Regional and National events at all levels  
Tailcoats are permitted at Advanced to Grand Prix

In the interest of athlete health and safety during weather extremes at RE & NCH the OC may give permission at their discretion, for athletes to compete without a jacket. If an athlete chooses not to wear a jacket, the shirt must have short or long sleeves and any stock or tie must be suitably pinned down.

A rain jacket may be worn in wet weather at the discretion of the athlete

#### Shirt/Stock/Tie

An athlete must wear a shirt with a stock or a tie, or an integrated choker collar or a choker collar

#### Club Uniform

Pony Club or Riding Club uniform may be worn at Training Events (TE) and Non-Graded Competitions

**SADDLERY**

**Art 477.11.1**

Black or brown Hoof boots are permitted. They must be low profile, not to cover the coronet band or the heels of the horse.

Refer Annex 1:  
Examples of approved hoof boots



Above: Scoot Boot Regular  
Below (L) Scoot Boot Slim                      Below (R) Scoot Boot Mini



EASY BOOT GLUE ON



Scoot Boot Skins



EASY BOOT ORIGINAL

## 477.3 STIRRUPS:

### 1.3

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 have closed branches, and no attachments. Safety stirrups may have an opening on the **inside or outside** branch.

Unless official ESNZ Dressage dispensation is approved (Art 483) the rider's boots must not be fixed to the stirrup iron by **any means** (e.g. magnets) and if used as such without dispensation will result in elimination.

## Art 477.3 & 4 BRIDLES:

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 a Micklem or similar design of bridle. The Micklem or similar bridle must be used with a permitted bit and without bit clips

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.

A browband is required, and except for the parts that attach to the crownpiece or headstall, is not required to be made of leather or leather-like material.

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.

A throatlatch is required except when the combined noseband or Micklem bridle are used.

A rein is a continuous, uninterrupted strap or line from the bridle bit to the hand. Rein additions or attachments are not permitted. Each bit must be attached to a separate rein and reins may only be attached to the bit. Reins must not be made of rope or rope-like material.

## Art 477.4

### **BITS:**

Snaffle, Bridoon and curb bits must have a smooth surface. Twisted and wire bits are prohibited. Bits must be made of metal, rigid plastic, or durable synthetic material. Bits must not place mechanical restraint upon the tongue.

E.g. A Dr Bristol Bit i.e., where the link plate is long, flat and set at an angle to the horse's tongue; is not classed as an ordinary double-jointed snaffle.

The diameter of the mouthpiece of the bridoon/snaffle and/or curb must be such so as not to hurt the Horse.

The minimum diameter of mouthpiece to be twelve millimetres (12 mm) for curb bit, and ten millimetres (10 mm) for bridoon bit. Snaffles must have a minimum diameter of twelve millimetres (12 mm) for horses and ten millimetres (10mm) for Ponies. The diameter of the mouthpiece is measured adjacent to the rings or the cheeks of the mouthpiece.

Wrapping of bits with any kind of material is not permitted

### **SNAFFLE BITS**

3.1 Snaffle Bits –Snaffle bits are permitted when the use of a double bridle is not required. (Refer 3.2)

3.1.1 Snaffle bits may be used with loose ring, D-Ring, Eggbutt and hanging cheeks. Single or double-jointed snaffles may also be used with upper or lower cheeks, full cheeks or Fulmer cheeks. Loose rings may have a sleeve fitted around part of the ring.

3.1.2 **Flexible rubber** or synthetic mouthpieces **are permitted.**

3.1.3 A snaffle may have up to two joints. A barrel or ball joint is permitted as the centre link in a double-jointed snaffle, however, the surface of the centre piece must be solid with no moveable parts other than a roller. The centre link may be tilted in a different orientation from the mouthpiece but must have rounded edges and may not have the effect of a tongue plate.

3.1.4 A double jointed snaffle or snaffle with rotating mouthpiece may be shaped to allow tongue relief. The maximum height of the deviation is 30mm from the lower part of tongue side to the highest part of the deviation. The widest part of the deviation must be where the mouthpiece contacts the tongue and must have a minimum width of 30mm. The mouthpiece of a jointed or unjointed snaffle may be shaped in a curve within the dimensions specified above.

**3.2 Bridoon bits** – a bridoon bit is defined as a snaffle bit that is used together with a curb bit to form a double bridle.

3.2.1 Bridoons may be used with loose ring and eggbutt cheeks.

3.2.2 Bridoons must have one or two joints. A barrel or ball joint is permitted as the centre link in a double jointed bridoon; however, the surface of the centre piece must be solid with no moveable parts other than a roller. The centre link may not have the effect of a tongue plate.

3.2.3 Bridoons where the centre link(s) of the bit can lock and have the effect of a mullen mouth snaffle are not permitted.

3.2.4 Flexible rubber/synthetic bridoons are not permitted.

## CURB BITS

### 3.3 Curb Bits

3.3.1 The length of the lever arm below the mouthpiece of the curb bit is limited to ten centimetres (10 cm). The upper cheek must not be longer than the lower cheek. If the curb has a sliding mouthpiece, the lever arm of the curb bit below the mouthpiece should not measure more than ten centimetres (10 cm) when the mouthpiece is at the uppermost position.

3.3.2 Curbs may have straight or S-shaped cheeks. They may have rotating lever arms.

3.3.3 The mouthpiece may be straight or shaped to allow tongue relief. The maximum height of the deviation is 30mm from the lower part of tongue side to the highest part of the deviation. The widest part of the deviation must be where the mouthpiece contacts the tongue and must have a minimum width of 30mm.

3.3.4 Curb chain can be made of metal or leather or a combination. Cover for curb chain can be made of leather, rubber or sheep skin. Curb chain hooks can be fixed or not fixed. A curb chain may ever be as tightly fixed so as to harm the Horse

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## Art 418.3

### POSITION & SEAT OF THE RIDER

Riding with both hands is obligatory at Dressage Events.

When leaving the arena at a walk on long rein, after having finished the test the Athlete may, at their own discretion, ride with only one (1) hand.

Apart from the halt and salute, where the athlete must take the reins in one hand, **riding with the reins in both hands is obligatory**, but 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.

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### Freestyles

Riding with one hand is permitted in Freestyles

Reference Document:

Directives for assessing the degree of difficulty in Freestyles Tests

<https://inside.fei.org/fei/disc/dressage/useful-docs>

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## **ARTICLE 451.18.1 UNAUTHORISED / OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE**

Any intentional outside intervention is considered assistance to a rider or horse and is penalised by elimination. This includes but is not limited to: Assistance by voice, signs, earphone and/or electronic communication devices

## **ARTICLE 451.18.2 UNAUTHORISED / OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE**

- i. Mounted riders may have their horse attached to a lead line when at walk when proceeding to or from the warmup area. Riders may not be led when mounted in the warmup area
- ii. Horses can be led into and out of the warmup arena but once in the warmup arena the groom is to take the horse off the lead
- iii. Mounted riders may have their horse attached to a lead 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.
- iv. 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
- v. Not applicable for riders with exemption cards or for riders competing in lead rein competitions.

## **ARTICLE 451.18.3 UNAUTHORISED ASSISTANCE re COMMANDED TESTS**

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. E.g. signal, remarks or inflexion of the voice. The caller may read each movement once or twice only.

Failure to observe this rule may entail elimination

**Not Applicable 1 August 2020**

**CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER:** Article 460 - Grading of Horses & Ponies

**Note: Passed but** implementation is to be deferred until all current results are reloaded and confirmed as correct using the current point allocation

That grading points be allocated as follows

%	Proposed Pts	Current Pts	Change
75 +	10	7	+ 3
70 - 74.99	7	7	No change
67 - 69.99	5	7	-2
63 - 66.99	3	5	-2
60 - 62.99	2	3	-1
57 - 59.99	1	1	No change