

# Dressage NZ Rule Changes Effective 1 August 2018



## Remit 1: Arena Familiarisation – Amend Article 473.4.1

- 4 Arena Familiarisation
- 4.1 The OC may permit riders to work, ride in or around the competition arena at such times and on such terms as the OC sees fit. All riders in the same class must be given the same opportunity to work in or around the arena.

**PASSED**

**Purpose:** *To remove the presumption that arena familiarisation is limited to working around the outside of the arena.*

### Notes:

- *The time allocated for each class or classes must be published prior to event*
- *Guidelines for inhand and ridden arena familiarisation to be put in place for riders and stewards*
- *Riders wishing to take advantage of arena familiarisation must be available at the advertised time for their class*

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## Remit 2: Identifying problem horses – amend article 477.4.12

- 4.12 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;
- 4.12. 1a. 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; and
- 1b. A red ribbon to indicate that the horse is prone to kicking and caution should be taken around that horse.
- 4.12.2 False tails may be worn, but must not contain any metal parts.

**PASSED**

**Purpose:** *To provide some guidance on the use of tail ribbons for safety purposes. And to clarify that these ribbons do not breach the rule against extravagant decorations. Also separated the false tail rule as a separate clause for ease of reference.*

### Note:

*This rule will permit a horse to compete with tail ribbons as per paras 4.12 1a & 1b*

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## Remit 3: Noseband Tightness – Amend Article 4.77.4.10

- 4.10 No noseband may ever be so tightly fixed that it will harm the horse. It must be possible to place one finger comfortably between the noseband and the nasal planum (front of the nose).

**PASSED**

**Purpose:** *The current rule does not adequately prohibit tightening of the noseband to a point that has been shown to be harmful to the horse. The more common “two-finger” standard was considered but the scientific literature shows that one finger is adequate. The rule has not incorporated the compulsory use of the ISES taper gauge, however the taper gauge can be used to measure the one finger rule and seems a sensible and useful tool for both stewards and riders to use to ensure this rule is being complied with and enforced consistently.*

#### **Remit 4: Welfare Concerns – Amend Article 454**

Article 454 – Lameness, Blood or Welfare Concerns

1. **Amended para:** Any horse that shows lameness while competing will be eliminated. The Judge or Chief Judge will ring the bell to stop the test and explain the reason for the elimination to the rider. There is no appeal from this decision.
2. (as per existing clause 3 re blood & lameness )
3. **New para:** 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.

**PASSED**

**Purpose:** *To provide a catch all type provision to allow a Judge to stop a test if necessary for a reason that is not anticipated elsewhere in the rules.*

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#### **Remit 5: Use of Voice – Amendment to Article 453**

453: The use of the voice or clicking of the tongue is prohibited and will be penalised by the loss of two marks from those that would have been awarded for the movement in which this occurred.

**PASSED**

**Purpose:** *Remove discretion to deduct less than 2 marks for use of voice.*

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#### **Remit 6: Commencement of test – Amendment to Article 451.12**

451.12 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.

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 is not commenced within 60 seconds of the sounding of the bell the rider will be eliminated.

**PASSED**

**Purpose:** *Update wording to provide for starting test from inside the arena, which is now increasingly common.*

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#### **Remit 6: Horse Leaving the Arena – Amendment to Article 451.15**

451.15 A horse leaving the arena with all 4 feet between the time of commencement of the test and the time of exit from the arena will be eliminated. The only exception to this rule is when a horse is required to recommence a test pursuant to article 451(4).

**PASSED**

**Purpose:** *Add exception for when horse is required by Judge to leave arena and restart the test due to course error because it entered in the wrong gait.*

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## Remit 7: Placement of Judges – Amendment to Article 441.2

441.2 The Judge(s) should sit between 3 and 5 metres from the outside of the arena. If the dimensions of the competition area do not permit the Judge to sit at least 3 metres from the edge of the arena then the Judge should sit as far from the edge of the arena as possible.

**PASSED**

**Purpose:** *Provide some flexibility for indoor arenas with limited space*

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## Remit 8: Amendments to Rules for Administration ESNZ By-Law 17

(Subject to ESNZ Board approval)

### 11. THE COMMITTEE (for clarity only)

- a) iv The President and the CEO/ GM of ESNZ ex officio, **as observers only**

### 16. FINANCIAL (for clarity only)

**All transactions must be authorised by no less than two individuals with the authority to authorise transactions. The individuals with authority to authorise transactions will be;**

- a. **The Dressage Sport Manager; and**
- b. **Two further officers appointed by the Board of Dressage NZ**

### 17. SELECTORS

~~c. Selectors will be subject to a yearly review.~~ Delete this para from the By-Law and include in the selectors terms of reference

### 19. SUB-COMMITTEES

~~The Board of Dressage NZ may form sub-committees for a specific purpose. The Board must inform the committee of the membership and Terms of Reference annually to the Committee. Delete this para. Duplicated in Board procedures 10(a) below~~

### 10. BOARD PROCEDURES

- a) The Dressage NZ Board may regulate its own procedure and may co-opt, appoint or employ individuals or subcommittees for any specific purpose falling within its functions.

**PASSED**

**Scott McKenna**  
**Dressage NZ Technical Officer**  
**2 /7/18**