RULES OF
DRESSAGE NEW ZEALAND

Effective 1st August 2010

Version 2.0.0
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. Copyright 2010 Equestrian Sports New Zealand Inc.

Dressage New Zealand
The Sports Manager
221 Mangapoua Road
RD 13
Hawera 4673
Phone: 06 272 9022
Fax: 06 272 9023
Mobile: 027 240 2702
dressagenz@xtra.co.nz
Web site www.dressagenz.org.nz

Equestrian Sports New Zealand
PO Box 6146
Marion Square
Wellington 6141
Phone: 04 499 8994
Fax: 04 499 2899
nzef@nzequestrian.org.nz
Web site www.nzequestrian.org.nz

Federation Equestre Internationale
Web site www.fei.org
EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NEW ZEALAND
RULES FOR DRESSAGE EVENTS
PREAMBLE

The present Rules for Dressage Events are effective on 1st August 2010. 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date, all other texts covering the same matter (other editions, and all other official documents) issued previously are superseded.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 Dressage New Zealand (DNZ) for Dressage Events, it must be read in conjunction with the General Regulations of Equestrian Sports New Zealand Inc (ESNZ).

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, it is the duty of those responsible to make a decision based on commonsense 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).

To facilitate future amendments, the layout and numbering of the Federation Equestre International (F.E.I) Rules for Dressage Events, have been maintained wherever possible. Where F.E.I. Articles are inapplicable to New Zealand conditions, they have been omitted and, replaced by rules peculiar to New Zealand.
CONTENTS

EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NEW ZEALAND RULES FOR DRESSAGE EVENTS.................................................................3
PREAMBLE .................................................................................................................................3
CONTENTS .................................................................................................................................4
INDEX .........................................................................................................................................7
CODE OF CONDUCT ..................................................................................................................9
FOR THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE ..........................................................................................9
EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NEW ZEALAND .........................................................................................10
RULES FOR DRESSAGE .............................................................................................................10
FEI DEFINITIONS OF PACES AND MOVEMENTS ...........................................................................10
CHAPTER I ..................................................................................................................................10
   Article 401 - Object and General Principles of Dressage .........................................................10
   Article 402 - The Halt .............................................................................................................11
   Article 403 - The Walk ..........................................................................................................12
   Article 404 - The Trot ............................................................................................................14
   Article 405 - The Canter .......................................................................................................15
   Article 406 - Reinback ..........................................................................................................18
   Article 407 - The Transitions ...............................................................................................19
   Article 408 - The Half Halts .................................................................................................19
   Article 409 - The Changes Of Directions ............................................................................19
   Article 410 - The Figures .......................................................................................................20
   Article 411 - Leg-Yielding .....................................................................................................21
   Article 412 - Lateral Movements .........................................................................................22
   Article 413 - The Pirouette, The Half-Pirouette and Turn on the Haunches .......................26
   Article 414 - The Passage .....................................................................................................28
   Article 415 - The Piaffe .........................................................................................................28
   Article 416 - The Impulsion / The Submission ....................................................................29
   Article 417 - The Collection .................................................................................................30
   Article 418 - The Position and Aids of the Athlete .................................................................32
   Article 419 - Diagonal ...........................................................................................................32
CHAPTER II ..................................................................................................................................33
   FAULTS AND THEIR DESCRIPTIONS .................................................................................33
   Article 430 - Faults Of The Head .........................................................................................33
   Article 431 - Grinding & Gnashing Of The Teeth .................................................................33
   Article 432 - Swishing Tail ...................................................................................................33
   Article 433 - Irregularity Of Pace .........................................................................................33
   Article 434 - Failure To Over-Track ....................................................................................33
CHAPTER III ..................................................................................................................................34
   JUDGING ...............................................................................................................................34
   Article 440 - Eligibility Of Judges & Writers .....................................................................34
Article 441 - Number, List, & Placing Of Judges ................. 36
Article 442 - Ground Jury And Judges ............................. 38
Article 443 - Conferring .................................................. 39
Article 444 - Scorer ............................................................ 39
Article 445 - Display Of Marks ........................................ 40
Article 446 - Classification Of Competitions...................... 40
Article 447 - Ride Off ......................................................... 40
Article 448 - Retirement Or Elimination During A Ride Off .... 40
Article 449 - Marking ....................................................... 41
Article 450 - Conformation ................................................ 41
Article 451 - Errors Of The Course & Test ........................ 41
"Interpretations - as passed by the FEI" ............................... 42
Article 452 - Commanded Tests ...................................... 43
Article 453 - Use Of Voice ............................................... 44
Article 454 - Penalty Points .............................................. 44
Article 455 - Lameness .................................................... 44
CHAPTER IV ........................................................................ 45
QUALIFICATIONS FOR DRESSAGE TESTS ..................... 45
Article 460 - Grading Of Horses & Ponies ......................... 45
Article 462 - Eligibility Of Horses And Ponies .................... 47
Article 463 - Eligibility Of Riders (Refer also ESNZ GR Article 124) .................................................. 48
Article 464 - Downgrading Of Horses & Ponies .................. 49
Article 465 - Special Competitions ..................................... 50
CHAPTER V ........................................................................ 52
PARTICIPATION ................................................................... 52
Article 470 - Use Of Tests ................................................ 52
Article 471 - Freestyle Competitions ................................. 52
Article 472 - Arena ............................................................ 53
Article 473 - Use Of Arena ................................................ 54
Article 474 - Prohibited Schooling ..................................... 54
Article 475 - Veterinary Inspections & Examinations .......... 55
Article 476 - Weight .......................................................... 55
Article 477 - Saluting ........................................................ 55
Article 478 - Saddlery ....................................................... 55
Captions to plates showing permitted bits ....................... 59
DRESSAGE NZ SCHEDULE OF APPROVED SAFETY
EQUIPMENT ................................................................. 65
Article 479 - Whips .......................................................... 65
Article 480 - Dress ............................................................. 66
Article 481 - Penalties For Contravening Rules 478 & 480 .... 69
Article 482 - Competing "Hors Concours" ......................... 69
Article 483 - Disabled Riders ............................................ 69
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Art</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arena Diagrams &amp; Measurements</td>
<td>Annex 4</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arena (Specifications for)</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arena (Use of)</td>
<td>473</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canter</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Changes of Direction</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classification (of Competitions)</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commanded Tests</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferring (by Judges)</td>
<td>443</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict of Interest</td>
<td>440</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conformation</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counter-Canter</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diagonal</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disabled Riders</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downgrading of Horses &amp; Ponies</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dress (of Rider)</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility of Horse &amp; Ponies</td>
<td>462</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility of Judges &amp; Writers</td>
<td>440</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eligibility of Riders</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Errors of the Course</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Errors of the Test</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure to Over Track</td>
<td>434</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Faults of the Head</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figures</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flying Change (of leg/lead at canter)</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freestyle Competitions</td>
<td>471</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grading of Horses &amp; Ponies</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grinding and Gnashing of the Teeth</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ground Jury &amp; Judges</td>
<td>442</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Half-Halt</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Halt</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head (Horse, Faults of)</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hors Concours (Participating as a non-competitor)</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Impulsion</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irregularity of Pace</td>
<td>433</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lameness</td>
<td>455</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lateral Movements</td>
<td>412</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leg Yielding</td>
<td>411</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marking (of Tests, including Freestyles)</td>
<td>449</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marks (Display of)</td>
<td>445</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Topic</td>
<td>Art.</td>
<td>Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number Grade and Placing of Judges</td>
<td>441</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objects and General Principles</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Passage</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penalties for Contravening Dress &amp; Saddlery Rules</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penalty Points</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piaffe</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pirouette and Half Pirouette</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position and Aids of the Rider</td>
<td>418</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation of Prizes</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prohibited Schooling</td>
<td>474</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rein Back</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement or Elimination During Ride Off</td>
<td>448</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ride Off</td>
<td>447</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddlery</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saluting</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scorer</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simple Change (of leg/lead at canter)</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Competitions</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spurs</td>
<td>480</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stewards</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swishing Tail</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Delegates</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tests (Use of)</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitions</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trot</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turn on the Haunches</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Inspection &amp; Horse Examination</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voice (Use of)</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weight (of rider/saddlery in dressage competitions)</td>
<td>476</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whips</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CODE OF CONDUCT
FOR THE WELFARE OF THE HORSE

The Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) expects all those involved in international equestrian sport to adhere to the FEI’s Code of Conduct and to acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the horse must be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.

1. At all stages during the preparation and training of competition horses, welfare must take precedence over all other demands. This includes good horse management, training methods, farriery and tack, and transportation.

2. Horses and competitors must be fit, competent and in good health before they are allowed to compete. This encompasses medication use, surgical procedures that threaten welfare or safety, pregnancy in mares and the misuse of aids.

3. Events must not prejudice horse welfare. This involves paying careful attention to the competition areas, ground surfaces, weather conditions, stabling, site safety and fitness of the horse for onward travel after the event.

4. Every effort must be made to ensure that horses receive proper attention after they have competed and that they are treated humanely when their competition careers are over. This covers proper veterinary care, competition injuries, euthanasia and retirement.

5. The FEI urges all involved with the sport to attain the highest levels of education in their areas of expertise.
Article 401 - Object and General Principles of Dressage

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 calm, supple, loose and flexible, but also confident, attentive and keen, thus achieving perfect understanding with the athlete.

These qualities are revealed by:

- The freedom and regularity of the paces.
- The harmony, lightness and ease of the movements.
- The lightness of the forehand and the engagement of the hindquarters, originating from a lively impulsion.
- The acceptance of the bit, with submissiveness/throughness (Durchlässigkeit) without any tension or resistance.

2. 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.

3. The walk is regular, free and unconstrained. The trot is free, supple, regular and active. The canter is united, light and balanced. 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.

4. 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.

5. 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, accepting the bridle with a light and consistent soft submissive contact. 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.

6. Cadence is shown in trot and canter 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 or canter exercises and in all the variations of these paces.

7. The regularity of the paces is fundamental to dressage.

Article 402 - The Halt

1. At the halt the horse should stand attentive, engaged, motionless, straight and square with the weight evenly distributed over all four legs. The neck should be raised with the poll as the highest point and the noseline slightly in front of the vertical. While remaining “on the bit” and maintaining a light and soft contact with the athlete’s hand, the horse may quietly chew the bit and should be ready to move off at the slightest indication of the athlete.

2. The halt is obtained by the displacement of the horse’s weight to the hindquarters by a properly increased action of the seat and legs of the athlete, driving the horse towards a softly closed hand, causing an almost instantaneous but not abrupt halt at a previously fixed place. The halt is prepared by a series of half-halts (see transitions).

3. The quality of the paces before and after the halt is an integral part of the assessment.
Article 403 - The Walk

1. The walk is a marching pace in a regular and well-marked four time beat with equal intervals between each beat. This regularity combined with full relaxation must be maintained throughout all walk movements.

2. When the foreleg and the hind leg on the same side move almost on the same beat, the walk tends to become an almost lateral movement. This irregularity, which might become an ambling movement, is a serious deterioration of the pace.

3. The following walks are recognised: Medium walk, Collected walk, Extended walk and Free walk. There should always be a clear difference in the attitude and overtracking in these variations.

   3.1. Medium walk. A clear, regular and unconstrained walk of moderate lengthening. The horse, remaining “on the bit”, walks energetically but relaxed with even and determined steps, the hind feet touching the ground in front of the hoof prints of the fore feet. The athlete maintains a light, soft and steady contact with the mouth, allowing the natural movement of the head and neck.

   3.2. Collected walk. The horse, remains “on the bit”, moves resolutely forward, with its neck raised and arched and showing a clear self-carriage. The head approaches the vertical position and a light contact is maintained with the mouth. The hind legs are engaged with good hock action. The pace should remain marching and vigorous, the feet
being placed in regular sequence. The steps cover less ground and are higher than at the medium walk, because all the joints bend more markedly. The collected walk is shorter than the medium walk, although showing greater activity.

3.3. **Extended walk.** The horse covers as much ground as possible, without haste and without losing the regularity of the steps. The hind feet touch the ground clearly in front of the hoof prints of the fore feet. The athlete allows the horse to stretch out the head and neck (forward and downwards) without losing contact with the mouth and control of the poll. The nose must be clearly in front of the vertical.

The walk is a pace in four-beat rhythm with eight phases (numbers in circles indicate the beat).

3.5. **Stretching on a long rein.** This exercise gives a clear impression of the "throughness" of the horse and proves the balance, suppleness, obedience and relaxation. In order to execute the exercise "stretching on a long rein" correctly, the athlete must lengthen the reins as the horse stretches gradually forward and downward. As the neck stretches forwards and downwards, the mouth should reach more or less to the horizontal line corresponding with the point of the shoulder. An elastic and consistent contact with the athlete's hands must be maintained. The pace
must maintain its rhythm, and the horse should remain light in the shoulders with the hindlegs well engaged. During the retake of the reins the horse must accept the contact without resistance in the mouth or poll.

**Article 404 - The Trot**

1. The trot is a two-beat pace of alternate diagonal legs (left fore and right hind leg and vice versa) separated by a moment of suspension.

2. The trot should show free, active and regular steps.

3. The quality of the trot is judged by general impression, i.e. the regularity and elasticity of the steps, the cadence and impulsion in both collection and extension. This quality originates from a supple back and well-engaged hindquarters, and by the ability to maintain the same rhythm and natural balance with all variations of the trot.

4. The following trots are recognised: Working trot, Lengthening of Steps, Collected trot, Medium trot and Extended trot.

4.1. **Working trot.** This is a pace between the collected and the medium trot, in which a horse’s training is not yet developed enough and ready for collected movements. The horse shows proper balance and, remaining “on the bit”, goes forward with even, elastic steps and good hock action. The expression “good hock action” underlines the importance of an impulsion originating from the activity of the hindquarters.

4.2. **Lengthening of steps.** In the test for four-year-old horses "lengthening of steps" is required. This is a variation between the working and medium trot in which a horse’s training is not developed enough for medium trot.

4.3. **Collected trot.** The horse, remaining “on the bit”, moves forward with the neck raised and arched. The hocks, being well-engaged and flexed, must maintain an energetic impulsion, enabling the shoulders to move with greater mobility, thus demonstrating complete self-carriage. Although the horse’s steps are shorter than in the other trots, elasticity and cadence are not lessened.

4.4. **Medium trot.** This is a pace of moderate lengthening compared to the extended trot, but “rounder” than the latter. Without hurrying, the horse goes forward with clearly lengthened steps and with impulsion from the hindquarters. The athlete allows the horse to carry the head a little more
in front of the vertical than at the collected and the working trot, and to lower the head and neck slightly. The steps should be even, and the whole movement balanced and unconstrained.

4.5. **Extended trot.** The horse covers as much ground as possible. Without hurrying, the steps are lengthened to the utmost as a result of great impulsion from the hindquarters. The athlete allows the horse to lengthen the frame and to gain ground whilst controlling the poll, the fore feet should touch the ground on the spot towards which they are pointing. The movement of the fore and hind legs should reach equally forward in the moment of extension. The whole movement should be well-balanced and the transition to collected trot should be smoothly executed by taking more weight on the hindquarters.

5. In Level 0, Level 1 and Level 2 dressage tests, trot movements may be executed either “sitting” or “rising” at the discretion of the Rider, unless otherwise indicated in the test concerned. In Level 3 and higher Level tests, all trot work is executed “sitting”, unless otherwise indicated in the test concerned.

---

**Article 405 - The Canter**

1. The canter is a three-beat pace where, in canter to the right, for example, the footfall is as follows: left hind, left diagonal (simultaneously left fore and right hind), right fore, followed by a moment of suspension with all four feet in the air before the next stride begins.

2. The canter, always with light, cadenced and regular strides, should be moved into without hesitation.
3. The quality of the canter is judged by the general impression, i.e. the regularity and lightness of the steps and the uphill tendency and cadence originating from the acceptance of the bridle with a supple poll and in the engagement of the hindquarters with an active hock action – and by the ability of maintaining the same rhythm and a natural balance, even after a transition from one canter to another. The horse should always remain straight on straight lines and correctly bent on curved lines.

4. The following canters are recognised: Working canter, lengthening of strides, Collected canter, Medium canter and Extended canter.

4.1. **Working canter.** This is a pace between the collected and the medium canter, in which a horse’s training is not yet developed enough and ready for collected movements. The horse shows natural balance while remaining “on the bit”, and goes forward with even, light and active strides and good hock action. The expression “good hock action” underlines the importance of an impulsion originating from the activity of the hindquarters.

4.2. **Lengthening of strides.** In the test for 4-year-old horses “lengthening of strides” is required. This is a variation between the working and medium canter in which a horse’s training is not developed enough for medium canter.

4.3. **Collected canter.** The horse, remaining “on the bit”, moves forward with the neck raised and arched. The hocks, being well-engaged, maintain an energetic impulsion, enabling the shoulders to move with greater mobility thus demonstrating self carriage and an uphill tendency. The horse’s strides are shorter than in the other canters, without losing elasticity and cadence.

4.4. **Medium canter.** This is a pace between the working and the extended canter. Without hurrying, the horse goes forward with clearly lengthened strides and impulsion from the hindquarters. The athlete allows the horse to carry the head a little more in front of the vertical than at the collected and working canter, and at the same time allows the horse, to lower the head and neck slightly. The strides should be balanced and unconstrained.

4.5. **Extended canter.** The horse covers as much ground as possible. Without hurrying, the strides are lengthened to the utmost. The horse remains calm, light and straight as a result of great impulsion from the hindquarters. The athlete
allows the horse to lengthen the frame with a controlled poll and to gain ground. The whole movement should be well-balanced and the transition to collected canter should be smoothly executed by taking more weight on the hindquarters.

4.6. **Counter–canter.** The counter canter is a balancing and straightening movement that must be executed in collection. The horse canters in correct sequence with the outside foreleg leading with positioning to the side of the leading leg. The foreleg should be aligned to the same track as the hind leg.

4.7. **Simple change of leg at the canter.** This is a movement in which, after a direct transition out of the canter into a walk, with three to five clearly defined steps, an immediate transition is made into the other canter lead.

4.8. **Flying change of leg.** The flying change is performed in one stride with the front and hind legs changing at the same moment. The change of the leading front and hind leg takes place during the moment of suspension. The aids should be precise and unobtrusive. Flying changes of leg can also be executed in series at every 4th, 3rd, 2nd or at every stride. The horse, even in the series, remains light, calm and straight with lively impulsion, maintaining the same rhythm and balance throughout the series concerned. In order not to restrict or restrain the lightness, fluency and groundcover of the flying changes in series, enough impulsion must be maintained.

Aims of flying changes: To show the reaction, sensitivity and obedience of the horse to the aids for the change of leg.
The canter is a pace in three-beat rhythm with six phases

**Article 406 - Reinback**

1. Rein back is a rearward diagonal movement with a two-beat rhythm but without a moment of suspension. Each diagonal pair of legs is raised and returned to the ground alternatively, with the forelegs aligned on the same track as the hindlegs.

2. During the entire exercise, the horse should remain “on the bit”, maintaining its desire to move forward.

3. Anticipation or precipitation of the movement, resistance to or evasion of the contact, deviation of the hindquarters from the straight line, spreading or inactive hind legs and dragging forefeet are serious faults.

4. The steps are counted as each foreleg moves back. After completing the required number of steps backward, the horse should show a square halt or move forward in the required pace immediately. In tests where a rein back of one horse’s length is required, it should be executed with three or four steps.

5. Reinback series (Schaukel) is a combination of two rein backs with walk steps in between. It should be executed with fluent transitions and the required number of steps.
Article 407 - The Transitions
The changes of pace and variations within the paces should be exactly performed at the prescribed marker. The cadence (except in walk) should be maintained up to the moment when the pace or movement is changed or the horse halts. The transitions within the paces must be clearly defined while maintaining the same rhythm and cadence throughout. The horse should remain light in hand, calm, and maintain a correct position. The same applies to transitions from one movement to another, for instance from passage to piaffe or vice versa.

Article 408 - The Half Halts
Every movement or transition should be invisibly prepared by barely perceptible half halts. The half halt is an almost simultaneous, coordinated action of the seat, the legs and the hands of the athlete, with the object of movements or transitions to lower and higher paces. By shifting slightly more weight onto the horse’s hindquarters, the engagement of the hind legs and the balance on the haunches are improved for the benefit of the lightness of the forehand and the horse’s balance as a whole.

Article 409 - The Changes Of Directions
1. At changes of direction, the horse should adjust the bend of his body to the curvature of the line it follows, remaining supple and following the indications of the athlete, without any resistance or change of pace, rhythm or speed.
2. Changes of directions can be executed in the following ways:
   a. Right-angled turn including riding through the corner (one quarter of a volte of approx. 6 metres).
   b. Short and long diagonal.
   c. Half voltes and half circles with change of rein
   d. Half pirouettes and turn on the haunches.
   e. Serpentine loops.
   f. Counter-changes of hand (in zig-zag).* The horse should be straight for a moment before changing direction.
* Zig-zag: A movement containing more than two half-passes with changes of direction.
Article 410 - The Figures

The figures asked in dressage tests are the voltes, the serpentines and the figures of eight.

1. **Volte**
   The volte is a circle of 6, 8 or 10 metres in diameter. If larger than 10 metres it is a circle.

   ![Volte Diagram]

2. **Serpentine**
   The serpentine with several loops touching the long side of the arena consists of half circles connected by a straight line. When crossing the centreline, the horse should be parallel to the short side (a). Depending on the size of the half circles, the straight connection varies in length. Serpentines with one loop on the long side of the arena are executed with 5-metre or 10-metre distance from the track (b). Serpentines around the centre line are executed between the quarter lines (c).
3. **Figure of eight**

This figure consists of two voltes or circles of equal size as prescribed in the test, joined at the centre of the eight. The athlete should make his horse straight an instant before changing direction at the centre of the figure.

---

**Article 411 - Leg-Yielding**

1. The aim of leg yielding: To demonstrate the suppleness and lateral responsiveness of the horse.

2. Leg-yielding is performed in working trot in FEI competitions. The horse is almost straight, except for a
slight flexion at the poll away from the direction in which it moves, so that the athlete is just able to see the eyebrow and nostril on the inside. The inside legs pass and cross in front of the outside legs. Leg-yielding should be included in the training of the horse before it is ready for collected work. Later on, together with the more advanced shoulder-in movement, it is the best means of making a horse supple, loose and unconstrained for the benefit of the freedom, elasticity and regularity of its paces and the harmony, lightness and ease of its movements. Leg yielding can be performed “on the diagonal” in which case the horse should be as nearly as possible parallel to the long sides of the arena, although the forehand should be slightly in advance of the hindquarters. It can also be performed “along the wall” in which case the horse should be at an angle of about 35 degrees to the direction in which he is moving.

**Article 412 - Lateral Movements**

1. The main aim of lateral movements – except leg-yielding - is to develop and increase the engagement of the hindquarters and thereby also the collection.

2. In all lateral movements - shoulder-in, travers, renvers, and half-pass, the horse is slightly bent and moves on different tracks.

3. The bend or flexion must never be exaggerated so that it does not impair the rhythm, the balance and fluency of the movement.

4. In the lateral movements, the pace should remain free and regular, maintaining a constant impulsion, yet it must be supple, cadenced and balanced. The impulsion is often lost because of the athlete’s preoccupation with bending the horse and pushing it sideways.

5. **Shoulder-in.** The shoulder-in is performed in collected trot. The horse is ridden with a slight but uniform bend around the inside leg of the athlete maintaining engagement and cadence and a constant angle of approx. 30 degrees. The horse's inside foreleg passes and crosses in front of the outside foreleg; the inside hind leg steps forward under the horse’s body weight following the same track of the outside foreleg, with the lowering of the inside hip. The horse is bent away from the direction in which it is moving.
6. **Travers.** Travers can be performed in collected trot or collected canter. The horse is slightly bent round the inside leg of the athlete but with a greater degree of bend than in shoulder-in. A constant angle of approximately 35 degrees should be shown (from the front and from behind one sees four tracks). The forehand remains on the track and the quarters are moved inwards. The horse’s outside legs pass and cross in front of the inside legs. The horse is bent in the direction in which it is moving. To start the travers, the quarters must leave the track or, after a corner or circle, are not brought back onto the track. At the end of the travers, the quarters are brought back on the track (without any counter-flexion of the poll/neck) as one would finish a circle.

Aims of travers: To show a fluent collected trot movement on a straight line and a correct bend. Front and hind legs are crossing, balance and cadence are maintained.

7. **Renvers.** Renvers is the inverse movement in relation to travers. The hindquarters remain on the track while the forehand is moved inward. To finish the renvers the forehand is aligned with the quarters on the track. Otherwise, the same principles and conditions that apply to the travers are applicable to the renvers. The horse is slightly bent around the inside leg of the athlete. The horse’s outside legs pass and cross in front of the inside legs. The horse is bent in the direction in which it is moving.

Aims of renvers: To show a fluent collected trot movement on a straight line with a greater degree of bend than in shoulder-in. Fore and hind legs cross, balance and cadence are maintained.

8. **Half pass.** Half-pass is a variation of travers, executed on a diagonal line instead of along the wall. It can be performed in collected trot (and in passage in a freestyle) or collected canter. The horse should be slightly bent around the inside leg of the athlete and in the direction in which it is moving. The horse should maintain the same cadence and balance throughout the whole movement. In order to give more freedom and mobility to the shoulders, it is of great importance that the impulsion be maintained, especially the engagement of the inside hind leg. The horse’s body is nearly parallel to the long side of the arena with the forehand slightly in advance of the hindquarters.
In the trot, the outside legs pass and cross in front of the inside legs. In the canter, the movement is performed in a series of forward/sideways strides.

Aims of half-pass in trot: To show a fluent collected trot movement on a diagonal line with a greater degree of bend than in shoulder-in. Fore and hind legs cross, balance and cadence are maintained.

Aims of the half-pass in canter: To both demonstrate and develop the collection and suppleness of the canter by moving fluently forwards and sideways without any loss of rhythm, balance or softness and submission to the bend.

Leg yielding along the wall

Leg yielding on the diagonal
Article 413 - The Pirouette, The Half-Pirouette and Turn on the Haunches

1. The Pirouette (half-pirouette) is a turn of 360 degrees (180 degrees) executed on two tracks, with a radius equal to the length of the horse and the forehand moving around the haunches.

2. Pirouettes (half-pirouettes) are usually carried out at collected walk or canter, but can also be executed at piaffe.

3. At the pirouette (half-pirouette) the forefeet and the outside hind foot move around the inside hind foot. The inside hind leg describes a circle as small as possible.

4. At whatever pace the pirouette (half-pirouette) is executed, the horse, slightly bent in the direction in which it is turning, remaining “on the bit” with a light contact, turning smoothly around, and maintaining sequence and timing of footfalls of that pace. The poll remains the highest point during the entire movement.

5. During the pirouettes (half-pirouettes), the horse should maintain its activity (walk also included) and never move backwards or sideways. In executing the pirouette or the half-pirouette in canter, the athlete should maintain lightness of the horse while accentuating the collection. The horse’s hindquarters are well engaged and lowered and show a good flexion of the joints. An integral part of the movement is the quality of the canter strides before and after the pirouette. The strides should show an increased activity and collection before the pirouette and the balance should be maintained at the end of the pirouette.

Aims of the pirouette and half-pirouette in canter: To demonstrate the willingness of the horse to turn around the inside hind leg on a small radius, slightly bent in the direction of the turn while maintaining the activity and the clarity of the canter, the straightness and the balance before and after the figure and clear canter strides during the turn. In the pirouette or halfpirouette in canter, the judges should be able to recognize a real canter stride although the feet of the diagonal – inside hind leg, outside front leg – are not touching the ground simultaneously.
Pirouette and half-pirouette in canter

7. The quality of the pirouettes (half-pirouettes) is judged according to the suppleness, lightness and regularity, and the precision and smoothness of the entrance and exit. Pirouettes (half-pirouettes) in canter should be executed in six to eight strides – full pirouettes – and three to four strides – half-pirouette.

8. **Half-pirouettes in walk** (180 degrees) are executed out of collected walk with the collection being maintained throughout the exercise. When the horse exits the half-pirouette it returns to the initial track without crossing the hind legs.

9. **Turn on the haunches from walk.** For younger horses that are still not able to show collected walk the “turn on the haunches” is an exercise to prepare the horse for collection. The “turn on the haunches” is executed out of medium walk prepared by half halts to shorten the steps a little and to improve the ability to bend the joints of the hindquarters. The horse does not halt before or after the turn. The “turn on the haunches” can be executed on a
larger radius (approx. ½m) than the pirouette in walk, but the demands of the training scale concerning rhythm, contact, activity and straightness are the same.

10. **Turn on the haunches from halt to halt** (180 degrees). To maintain the forward tendency of the movement one or two forward steps at the beginning of the turn are permitted. The same criteria apply as for the turn on the haunches from walk.

**Article 414 - The Passage**

1. Passage is a measured, very collected, elevated and cadenced trot. It is characterised by a pronounced engagement of the hindquarters, a more accentuated flexion of the knees and hocks, and the graceful elasticity of the movement. Each diagonal pair of legs is raised and returned to the ground alternately, with cadence and a prolonged suspension.

2. In principle, the height of the toe of the raised forefoot should be level with the middle of the cannon bone of the other supporting foreleg. The toe of the raised hind foot should be slightly above the fetlock joint of the other supporting hind leg.

3. The neck should be raised and gracefully arched with the poll as the highest point and the nose line close to the vertical. The horse should remain light, and soft “on the bit” without altering the cadence. The impulsion remains lively and pronounced.

4. Irregular steps with the hind or front legs, swinging the forehand or the hindquarters from one side to the other, as well as jerky movements of the forelegs or the hind legs, dragging the hind legs or double beat in the moment of suspension are serious faults. Aim of passage is: To demonstrate the highest degree of collection, cadence and suspension in the trot.

**Article 415 - The Piaffe**

1. Piaffe is a highly collected, cadenced, elevated diagonal movement giving the impression of remaining in place. The horse’s back is supple and elastic. The hindquarters are lowered; the haunches with active hocks are well engaged, giving great freedom, lightness and mobility to the shoulders and forehand. Each diagonal pair of legs is
raised and returned to the ground alternately, with spring and an even cadence.

1.1. In principle, the height of the toe of the raised forefoot should be level with the middle of the cannon bone of the other supporting foreleg. The toe of the raised hind foot should reach just above the fetlock joint of the other supporting hind leg.

1.2. The neck should be raised and gracefully arched, with the poll as the highest point. The horse should remain “on the bit” with a supple poll, maintaining a soft contact. The body of the horse should move in a supple, cadenced and harmonious movement.

1.3. Piaffe must always be animated by a lively impulsion and characterised by perfect balance. While giving the impression of remaining in place, there may be a visible inclination to advance, this being displayed by the horse’s eager acceptance to move forward as soon as it is asked.

1.4. Moving even slightly backwards, irregular or jerky steps with the hind or front legs, no clear diagonal steps, crossing either the fore or hind legs, or swinging either the forehand or the hindquarters from one side to the other, getting wide behind or in front, moving too much forward or double-beat rhythm are serious faults. Aims of piaffe are: To demonstrate the highest degree of collection while giving the impression of remaining in place.

Article 416 - The Impulsion / The Submission

1. Impulsion is the term used to describe the transmission of an eager and energetic, yet controlled, propulsive energy generated from the hind quarters into the athletic movement of the horse. Its ultimate expression can be shown only through the horse’s soft and swinging back guided by a gentle contact with the athlete’s hand.

1.1. Speed, of itself, has little to do with impulsion; the result is more often a flattening of the paces. A visible characteristic is a more pronounced articulation of the hind leg, in a continuous rather than staccato action. The hock, as the hind foot leaves the ground, should first move forward rather than being pulled upwards, but certainly not backwards. A prime ingredient of impulsion is the time the horse spends in the air rather than on the ground. Impulsion is, therefore, seen only in those paces that have a period of suspension.
1.2. Impulsion is a precondition for a good collection in trot and canter. If there is no impulsion, then there is nothing to collect.

2. **Submission** does not mean subordination, but an obedience revealing its presence by a constant attention, willingness and confidence in the whole behaviour of the horse as well as by the harmony, lightness and ease it is displaying in the execution of the different movements. The degree of the submission is also demonstrated by the way the horse accepts the bit, with a light and soft contact and a supple poll. Resistance to or evasion of the athlete’s hand, being either “above the bit” or “behind the bit” demonstrate lack of submission. The main contact with the horse’s mouth must be through the snaffle bit.

2.1. Putting out the tongue, keeping it above the bit or drawing it up altogether, as well as grinding the teeth or agitation of the tail, are mostly signs of nervousness, tension or resistance on the part of the horse and must be taken into account by the judges in their marks for every movement concerned, as well as in the collective mark for “submission”.

2.2. The first thought when considering submission is willingness, that the horse understands what is being asked of it and is confident enough in the athlete to react to the aids without fear or tension.

2.3. The horse’s straightness, uphill tendency and balance enable it to stay in front of the athlete’s legs and go forward into an accepting and self-carrying contact with the bit. This is what really produces the picture of harmony and lightness. The fulfilling of the main requirements/movements of a Dressage test is a main criterion of submission.

**Article 417 - The Collection**

The aim of the collection of the horse is:

a) To further develop and improve the balance and equilibrium of the horse, which has been more or less displaced by the additional weight of the athlete.

b) To develop and increase the horse’s ability to lower and engage its hindquarters for the benefit of the lightness and mobility of its forehand.

c) To add to the “ease and carriage” of the horse and to make it more pleasurable to ride.
Collection is developed through the use of half-halts and the use of lateral movements shoulder-in, travers, renvers and half pass. Collection is improved and achieved by the use of the seat and legs and containing hands to engage the hind legs. The joints bend and are supple so that the hind legs can step forward under the horse’s body. However, the hind legs should not be engaged so far forward under the horse, that they shorten the base of support excessively, thereby impeding the movement. In such a case, the line of the back would be lengthened and raised too much in relation to the supporting base of the legs, the stability would be impaired and the horse would have difficulty in finding a harmonious and correct balance.

On the other hand, a horse with an over-long base of support, which is unable or unwilling to engage its hind legs forward under its body, will never achieve acceptable collection, characterised by “ease and carriage” as well as a lively impulsion originating from the activity of the hindquarters.

The position of the head and neck of a horse at the collected paces is naturally dependent on the stage of training and, to some degree, on its conformation. It is distinguished by the neck being raised without restraint, forming a harmonious curve from the withers to the poll, which is the highest point, with the nose slightly in front of the vertical. At the moment the athlete applies his aids to obtain a momentary and passing collecting effect, the head may become more or less vertical. The arch of the neck is directly related to the degree of collection.
Article 418 - The Position and Aids of the Athlete

1. All the movements should be obtained with imperceptible aids and without apparent effort of the athlete. The athlete should be well-balanced, elastic, sitting deep in the centre of the saddle, smoothly absorbing the movement of the horse with his loins and hips, supple thighs with the legs steady and stretched well down. The heels should be the lowest point. The upper part of the body should be tall and supple. The contact should be independent from the athlete's seat. The hands should be carried steadily close together, with the thumb as the highest point and a straight line from the supple elbow through the hand to the horse's mouth. The elbows should be close to the body. All of these criteria enable the athlete to follow the movements of the horse smoothly and freely.

2. The effectiveness of the athlete's aids determines the precise fulfilment of the required movements of the tests. There shall always be the impression of a harmonious cooperation between horse and athlete.

3. Riding with both hands is obligatory at FEI Dressage Events. When leaving the arena at a walk on long rein, after having finished the test the athlete may, at his own discretion, ride with only one hand. For Freestyle tests, see also Directives for Judges – Freestyle tests and Directives for assessing the degree of difficulty in a Freestyle test.

4. The use of the voice or clicking the tongue repeatedly is a serious fault. Refer to sanctions/penalties.

Article 419 - Diagonal

1. The near hind and off-forelegs of the horse are known as the right diagonal; the off hind and near-fore as the left diagonal.

2. A rider is said to be riding on the right diagonal when at the rising trot, his seat returns to the saddle as the horse's near-hind and off-fore come to the ground, and vice-versa.

3. The rider should change the diagonal at every change of direction. It is optional whether he rides on the inside or the outside diagonal, but must conform to the same one throughout.

4. When changing the rein at the riding trot from one quarter marker to another, the diagonal may be changed at the beginning or at the end of the movement, especially at the extended trot, so as not to interrupt the cadence.
CHAPTER II
FAULTS AND THEIR DESCRIPTIONS

Article 430 - Faults Of The Head
Oblique head-carriage - when the horse tilts his head laterally.
Over bent, tossing the head, snapping back, head swinging, all bad faults.

Article 431 - Grinding & Gnashing Of The Teeth
These are nervous habits evidence of tension, and therefore they should be faulted. See Article 416 2.1.

Article 432 - Swishing Tail
Judges should be careful to differentiate between the swish of resentment and the swish to dislodge flies. The former is a bad fault. See Article 416 2.1.

Article 433 - Irregularity Of Pace
A very bad fault. A horse that is not level in its action should never receive more than half-marks for any movement in which this is apparent.

Article 434 - Failure To Over-Track
Over-tracking should be very marked at the extended walk and trot, and the hind-feet should be well up to the print of the forefeet at the medium walk and trot. Any tracking of the hind-feet to either side shows the horse is not straight.
CHAPTER III
JUDGING

To be read in conjunction with ESNZ General Regulations Articles 148, 149, 150, 151 and 152.

In Dressage Competitions:
Official National Judges are from List 1.
National Judges are from Lists 2A, 2 and 3.
Candidate National Judges are from Lists 4 and 5.

Article 440 - Eligibility Of Judges & Writers

1. The NZ Dressage Judge must have knowledge of the principals of Dressage, of the ESNZ Rules and, based on his or her competence is graded from List 5 to List 1, AND is qualified to judge to the highest level their grading List allows. (As per Art. 441). He/She is always representing Dressage NZ and ESNZ.

1.1. The age limit for all categories of judges is 75 years. Judges will be retired on 1 June in the year they celebrate their 75th birthday.

2. A Judge must avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest. A Judge must have a neutral, independent and fair position towards riders, owners, trainers, organizers and other officials and integrate well into a team. Financial and or personal interest must never influence his/her way of judging.

2.1. No Judge may officiate at a competition if his/her duties will involve a conflict of interest.

2.2. At National events e.g. ICH, NCH, HOY and other named events specified by Dressage NZ, a Judge must declare his/her interest in any person or horse competing that he/she has trained within the six months preceding the event. For Regional Events the stand down period to be two months. There will be no stand down period for Local Events. The OC will then allocate that judge to competitions in which this particular horse/person does not take part. (Note: Training refers to ANY training within the specified stand down period).

2.3. At all Events a Judge must declare his/her interest in any person or horse competing that he/she has owned/part owned or have other business interest within the twelve months preceding the event, thus giving the OC the
opportunity to allocate that Judge to competitions in which
this particular person/horse does not take part.
# Article 441 - Number, List, & Placing Of Judges

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Local Events</th>
<th>Regional Events &amp; ICH</th>
<th>National &amp; Named Events</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>List 5</td>
<td>Levels 1 and 2 accompanied by another judge, preferably a List 4 or above.</td>
<td>Levels 1 and 2 accompanied by a List 4 or above. May not judge Challenge Qualifiers.</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List 4</td>
<td>Levels 1 and 2 alone. Levels 3 and 4 accompanied by a List 3 or above.</td>
<td>Levels 1, 2 and 3 accompanied by a List 3 or above. May judge Level 1, 2 &amp; 3 Challenge Qualifiers when accompanied by a judge from List 2 or above.</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List 3</td>
<td>All levels up to and including Level 5 alone. Level 6 accompanied by a List 2 or above.</td>
<td>All levels up to and including Level 4 alone. Levels 5 and 6 accompanied by a List 2 or above. May judge Level 1, 2, 3 &amp; 4 Challenge Qualifiers when accompanied by a judge from List 2 or above.</td>
<td>All levels up to and including Level 4 accompanied by a List 2 or above.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List 2</td>
<td>All levels up to and including Level 5 alone. Level 6 accompanied by judge from List 3 or above. Levels 7, 8 &amp; 9 accompanied by a judge from List 2 or above.</td>
<td>Alone up to &amp; including Level 5. Level 6 accompanied by judge from List 3 or above. Levels 7, 8 and 9 and all level 6/7 Challenge Qualifiers accompanied by a List 2 or above. (NB Levels 8 &amp; 9 Qualifiers should where possible have a List 1 judge).</td>
<td>All levels up to and including Level 5 but must be accompanied by a List 3 or above for Levels 1 &amp; 2 &amp; 3. Levels 4, 5, 6, &amp; 7 accompanied by a List 2 or above. Levels 8 and 9 accompanied by at least one List 1.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Level</td>
<td>Local Events</td>
<td>Regional Events &amp; ICH</td>
<td>National &amp; Named Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List 2A</td>
<td>All levels up to and including Level 6 alone.</td>
<td>Alone up to &amp; including Level 5. Level 6 accompanied by judge from List 3 or above.</td>
<td>All levels but accompanied by at least one List 2 or above when judging Levels 5 and 6/7.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Levels 7, 8 &amp; 9 accompanied by a judge from List 2 or above.</td>
<td>Levels 7, 8 and 9 and all level 6/7 Challenge Qualifiers accompanied by a List 2 or above.</td>
<td>Must be accompanied by at least one List 1 when judging Levels 8 &amp; 9.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(NB Levels 8 &amp; 9 Qualifiers should where possible have a List 1 judge).</td>
<td>NB There must be a minimum of 3 judges on Levels 8 &amp; 9.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List 1</td>
<td>All levels up to and including Level 6 alone.</td>
<td>Alone up to &amp; including Level 5. Can be accompanied by lower listed judge as per permitted above.</td>
<td>All levels but accompanied by at least one List 2 or above when judging Levels 5 &amp; 6/7.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Levels 7, 8 &amp; 9 accompanied by a judge from List 2 or above.</td>
<td>Levels 6 &amp; above must have minimum of two judges Challenge Qualifiers Levels 6-9 must be accompanied by List 2 or above.</td>
<td>NB There must be a minimum of 3 judges on Levels 8 &amp; 9.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is recommended that there be a minimum of two judges on all competitions where possible, but one judge is permitted as defined in the table above.
4. Judges must be on the outside of and a maximum 5 and minimum of 3 metres from the arena at outdoor competitions and preferably a minimum of 3 metres at indoor competitions.

4.1. When one or two Judges are officiating, the Chief Judge must be placed on or as near to the prolongation of the centre line (C) as possible. The second Judge as near as possible to the prolongation of the centre line or at M, H, B or E. (M and H placed as in 4.2).

4.2. When three Judges are officiating, the Chief Judge will be on the prolongation of the Centre line (C), the two others (M and H) 2.5 metres from and on the inside of the prolongation of the long sides. When three judges are used, one may sit on the long side.

4.3. When five Judges are officiating, the two side Judges must be placed at B and E respectively.

5. Under exceptional circumstances and more particularly for indoor competitions, exceptions as to the positioning of Judges, may be made by the Technical Delegate or the Ground Jury.

6. Should exceptional circumstances mean the correct number and/or grade of judge are not available to officiate in a competition, the President of the ground jury may allow the competition to proceed with less than the minimum required number and/or grade of judges for that competition. If the OC does not make a request for this exemption to the President of the Ground Jury and the incorrect number and or grade of judges officiate, the results of the competition will be invalid for grading purposes.

Article 442 - Ground Jury And Judges

1. In all Events run under these Rules the Judges for each individual class shall be the Ground Jury for that class. The Ground Jury is ultimately responsible for the judging of that class and for settling any problems that may occur during its jurisdiction. Examples: Confusion over entry to the arena, lateness for start time with a reason acceptable to the Ground Jury (Judge), exceptional disturbance to the test or if the welfare of the horse is being compromised. If there are two or more Judges in a class, one must be appointed Chief Judge. In the case of an objection in a
particular class, that Ground Jury may co-opt the President of the Event Ground Jury.

2. The Ground Jury for matters requiring adjudication not confined to one particular class will be the President of the Event Ground Jury and two other Judges. The members of the Event Ground Jury must be nominated before the start of the Event.

3. The Dressage NZ Technical Committees, with the agreement of the Dressage Discipline Board, will appoint the Chief Judge for the New Zealand Dressage Championship (Burkner Medal), and the Dressage Horse of the Year competition.

** NZPCA Ground Jury and Appeal Committee - refer Annex 3 - Para A.

Article 443 - Conferring

Judges must not confer during a competition except when a List 4 or 5 Judge is a member of the panel and requests to do so under special circumstances.

Article 444 - Scorer

1. An official should be appointed to check, before the Judges' sheets are sent to the scorer, that all movements have been marked and that the Judges have used the coefficients when applicable.

2. If the Judge for any reason does not realise until the competitor has left the arena, that one or more marks have been omitted he must:

2.1. Adjust as necessary the position of his marks and comments on his sheet to accord with the movements actually performed.

3. 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 whole number, .5 to be rounded upwards).

3.1. Record the penalty for error of course, as long as one or more of the Ground Jury have recorded an error of course on the score sheet before the score sheet has been handed to the scorers. (See Art 451.4)

4. The attention of scorers is drawn to Articles 445, 446 (when it is the responsibility of the scorer to inform the Judges of a tie) 448, 449, 454.
Article 445 - Display Of Marks
1. At all events run under ESNZ rules for dressage the percentage awarded to the competitors by each Judge must be displayed under his/her own name, as well as the percentage gained from the total marks possible for final classification in the competition.
2. Organising committees 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 posted on the board.
3. If the artistic presentation marks are equal, the competitors are given the same placing.

Article 446 - Classification Of Competitions
1. In all competitions (but see Art 447) the winner is the competitor having obtained the highest total points, the second one, the one with the next highest total and so on. In case of equality of points for the first four places, the competitors are given the same placing.
2. In the case of equality in competitions specified by Dressage NZ, 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.

Article 447 - Ride Off
1. When a ride off is required the Organising Committee will decide how many competitors take part in the ride off.
2. The ride off test is considered as an extension to the qualifying competition. The same Judges must officiate and the horse must be ridden by the same rider. The marks are not cumulative.

Article 448 - Retirement Or Elimination During A Ride Off
1. A Competitor who retires or is eliminated during a ride off must be placed last in the classification for the ride off.
2. When several competitors retire or are eliminated during a ride off, they must be placed according to the marks obtained in the initial test.

**Article 449 - Marking**

1. All movements, and certain transitions from one to another, which have to be marked by the Judges, are numbered on the Judges sheets.

2. They are marked from 10 to 0 by each Judge, 10 being the highest mark and 0 the lowest.

3. The scale of marks is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>10 Excellent</th>
<th>7 Fairly good</th>
<th>4 Insufficient</th>
<th>1 Very bad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 Very good</td>
<td>6 Satisfactory</td>
<td>3 Fairly bad</td>
<td>0 Not executed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Good</td>
<td>5 Sufficient</td>
<td>2 Bad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Not executed" means that practically nothing of the required movement has been performed.

In Freestyle Tests, half marks may be used for the artistic marks.

4. Collective marks are awarded, after the competitor has finished his performance, as indicated on the test. Each collective mark is awarded from 10 to 0.

5. The collective marks, as well as certain difficult and/or infrequently repeated movements, can be given a coefficient, normally 2, which is fixed by Dressage NZ.

6. Any corrected mark must be initialled by the judge having made the correction. Judges marks must be recorded in ink.

**Article 450 - Conformation**

The Judges will not take into account conformation of the horse.

**Article 451 - Errors Of The Course & Test**

1. When a competitor makes an "error of course" (takes the wrong turn, omits a movement etc) the President of the Jury warns him, by sounding the bell. The President shows him, if necessary, the point at which he must take up the test again and the next movement to be executed then leaves him to continue by himself.

However in some cases when although the competitor makes an "error of the course", the sounding of the bell would unnecessarily impede the fluency of the
performance - for instance if the competitor makes a transition from medium trot to collected walk at V instead of at K, or, cantering up the centre line from A, makes a pirouette at D instead of at L - it is up to the President to decide whether to sound the bell or not.

1.1 However, if the bell is not sounded at an error of 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.

1.2. Every "error of the course", whether the bell is sounded or not, must be penalised (Exception: see 1.1 above) - the first time by 2 points, - the second time by 4 points, the third time the competitor is eliminated, although he may continue his performance to the end, the marks being awarded in the ordinary way.

2. When a competitor makes an << error of the test >> (trots rising instead of sitting, at the salute does not take the reins in one hand etc.), he must be penalised as for an <<error of the course>>.

"Interpretations - as passed by the FEI"

In principle a competitor is not allowed to repeat a movement of the test unless the President of the Jury decides on an error of course (rings the bell). If, however, the rider has started the execution of a movement and tries to do the same movement again, the judges must consider the first movement shown only, at the same time penalise for an error of course.

3. If the Jury has not noted an error, the competitor has the benefit of the doubt.

4. The penalty points are deducted on each Judge's sheet from the total points obtained by the competitor.

5. In a movement which must be carried out at a certain point of the arena, it should be done at the moment when the competitor's body is above this point except in transitions where the horse approaches the letter from a diagonal or perpendicular to the point where the letters are positioned. In this case, the transitions must be done when the horse's nose reaches the track at the letter so that the horse is straight in the transition.

6. After the sound of the bell, the competitor should enter the arena at A as soon as possible. Exceeding 45 seconds before entering the arena after the bell has sounded entails a penalty of 2 points per judge or 0.5% for freestyle at the
discretion of the Ground Jury. The same applies to a competitor who enters the arena at A before the starting signal has been given. (Note “Exception” Article 473).

7. In the case of a fall of horse and/or competitor, the competitor will be eliminated.

7.1. If after the rider has entered the arena, he/she dismounts without a reason acceptable to the judges, the penalty will be elimination.

8. A horse leaving the arena completely, with all four feet, during a dressage competition between the time of entry and the time of exit at A, will be eliminated.

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. 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 shall be considered as a disciplinary matter.

9. Any resistance which prevents the continuation of the test longer than 20 seconds is punished by elimination. Any outside intervention by voice, signs, etc, is considered as assistance to a rider or to his horse. A rider or horse getting assistance must be eliminated.

When a horse enters the arena at the wrong pace the bell will be rung, as for a course error, when the horse is halted. The competitor will be sent out of the arena to restart the test. (Except as in Article 473 Exception).

**Article 452 - Commanded Tests**

1. The NZ Dressage Championship Grade Finals, NZ Young Rider Dressage Championship Grade Finals, NZPCA Team Dressage Championship Finals, the Dressage Horse of the Year Title classes, the FEI Prix St Georges, Intermediate I, Intermediate II, Grand Prix and Grand Prix Special MUST be ridden from memory. Dressage New Zealand may from time to time stipulate other series or competitions that must be ridden from memory. All other tests may be commanded.

2. Competitors must provide their own Commander.

3. The Commander must stand still outside the Arena opposite either B or E, according to the wind.

4. Errors of the course will be penalised in the usual way (Article 451.2).
5. If, in the opinion of the Judges, the Commander makes any variation from the text of the test or does anything to assist the competitor by signal, remarks or inflexion of the voice, a penalty may be recorded equal to that of the error of course that would have occurred had the assistance not been given.

**Article 453 - Use Of Voice**

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

**Article 454 - Penalty Points**

1. Penalty Points will be incurred for:
   1.1. Errors of the Course & Test (Article 451).
   1.2. Unauthorised assistance from Commander (Article 452.5).
   1.3. Use of Voice (Article 453).
   1.4. Outside time in Freestyle Tests (Article 471 - para 3a).
   1.5. Carrying whip around Arena (Article 479 - para 2.1).
2. Any penalty points must be deducted from the marks on each judge’s sheet before these totals are added together to arrive at a final result.

**Article 455 - Lameness**

1. In a case of marked lameness, the Chief Judge informs the competitor he is eliminated. There is no appeal against this decision.
2. However, if there are any doubts as to the soundness of a horse, the competitor will be allowed to complete the test and any unevenness of pace will be severely penalised.
CHAPTER IV
QUALIFICATIONS FOR DRESSAGE TESTS

**Article 460 - Grading Of Horses & Ponies**

1. Upon gaining 30 points in any level as defined in the table below, that horse/pony may not compete in any level below that grade.

(Exception - Young Rider Classes not restricted to a specific grade of horse or pony).

Dressage competitions are divided into six grades and nine levels.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEVEL 0 TRAINING</th>
<th>Non - graded only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 1 GRADE</td>
<td>Level 1 Less than 30 points in Level 2 or above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 2 GRADE</td>
<td>Level 2 Less than 30 points in Level 3 or above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 3 GRADE</td>
<td>Level 3 Less than 30 points in Level 4 or above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 4 GRADE</td>
<td>Level 4 Less than 30 points in Level 5 or above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 5 GRADE</td>
<td>Level 5 Less than 30 points in Advanced Grade</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LEVEL 6 - 9 GRADE</td>
<td>Levels 6 - 9 inclusive (Advanced)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**1.1 Advanced Grade**

1.1.1 Horses may compete in any levels they are eligible for within Advanced Grade at any event.

1.1.2. Except that combinations who have competed at Olympic or World Games, or from 1 January 2003 have achieved eligibility for an FEI Certificate of Capability, may not compete in Levels 6 and/or 7 at any National Named event. e.g. ICH, NCH, HOYS.

2. All placings in individual dressage competitions in the above grades will count for grading points when run under the rules of the FEI or ESNZ or the rules of a National Federation affiliated to the FEI where the competitor receives the minimum score for grading points, determined by Dressage NZ as per Art 460.

**EXCEPTION:** Training Competitions or other non-graded competitions.

3. **Local Events:** Any prize monies will be at the discretion of the Organizing Committee and must be published in the schedule. Prize money is not obligatory at LE’s **Regional & National Events:** Prize money, or goods/trophies to at least equivalent value of the Entry Fee
(not incl levies) must be paid to all 1st to 4th placed horses or ponies in graded competitions at Regional and National Events. Prize money, goods or trophies for competitions restricted to a particular category or categories of horses & riders at RE & National & Named events is at the discretion of the OC and must be published in the schedule.

4. Further prize money may be awarded at the discretion of the Organising Committee. (Also refer to ESNZ GR's Chapter IV).

5. Grading Points will be awarded on a percentage basis:
   - 57.00% to 59.99% = 1 point
   - 60.00% to 62.99% = 3 points
   - 63.00% to 66.99% = 5 points
   - 67.00% upwards = 7 points

NB:
(i). Rider age group classes of mixed grade horses and ponies do not count for grading (Explanation: Rider age group competitions not restricted to specific grade/s under Rule 460.1 will not count for grading. E.g.: Level 5 horse/pony competing in Rider Age Group competition held at Level 3.
(ii). When rider age group competitions are run in accordance with Art 460, grading points will be allocated.

6. Tests used under Training (non-graded) conditions do not count for Grading Points.

7. Grading points are taken as at the evening prior to the commencement of an event.

8. All points earned during an event will be added to the horses grading points at the level at which they were earned.

9. When the schedule allows ponies may compete in horse classes.

10. The Person Responsible for a horse at an Event is responsible for the accuracy of their identification papers and for keeping accurate records of results for each Discipline.

11. Test of choice competitions are permitted at levels 6/7 and 8/9 at Local Events. Test of Choice Competitions may be run as graded or non-graded. 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. Test of Choice competitions are not permitted at Level 5 and below except at Training Events.
Note: If TOC 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 & place getters, if any, for each test regardless of the TOC classification awarded at the event. If results are not submitted in this way, the ESNZ Show Manager programme is unable to automatically download the results into the ESNZ national horse performance database and horses will not be awarded grading points.

Article 462 - Eligibility Of Horses And Ponies

1. All horses and ponies must be registered with the NF 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.

2. Foreign owned horses or horses imported from three years of age or over (age based on official foaling dates see Art 462.3) will be classified Level 9, unless a certificate from the National Federation of its country of origin is sent to the NF giving either, its records of competition or a statement that the horse has never been registered for competition. The horse may then be graded in accordance with the Rules for Dressage.

3. A horse must be at least three years of age, based on the official foaling date of 1st August for Southern Hemisphere born horses and 1st January for Northern Hemisphere born horses, before competing in any competition run under these rules.

3.1. A horse/pony must be at least seven years of age before competing in levels 6, 7 & 8, and at least eight years before competing in Level 9.

4. Horses are graded according to the number of points they have earned. The Person Responsible for a horse at an Event is responsible for the accuracy of their identification papers and keeping accurate results records for each Discipline. It must be available for inspection when required by an official of the NF or the OC. (ESNZ GR 139.3.).

5. Horses may compete in any level starting with the lowest level which the horse is currently graded. (Exception: Age Group & Training Classes).
6. Organising Committees may control entries by restricting the number of starts per horse each day. Such a restriction must be advertised in the event schedule. However HORSES or PONIES can not be restricted to one level /grade and are free to start at several levels in one day providing they are eligible for each grade/level.

7. It is recommended that for National and Island Titles, a horse or pony may only contest one Title in one level. (Exception: Age Group Championships).

8. Subject to meeting the criteria for entry, Ponies and Horses may compete on equal terms. If classes restricted to pony riders are offered, ponies and pony riders may not compete at the same level on equal terms with horses (i.e. Ponies may compete amongst Horses unless Pony Classes are offered).

9. Horses and ponies ridden by a Young Rider at a competition cannot be ridden by any other rider at the same event.

**Article 463 - Eligibility Of Riders (Refer also ESNZ GR Article 124)**

1. Riders must be members of ESNZ. Exception: Training Events.

2. Riders may take part in horse competitions from the beginning of the calendar year in which they turn 12.

2.1. Riders may take part in age group competitions and Championships from the beginning of the calendar year they reach the age of 12 until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 21.

2.2. Competitors may take part in competitions and Championships for Young Riders from the beginning of the calendar year they reach the age of 16 until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 21.

2.3. Competitors may take part in competitions and Championships for Juniors from the beginning of the calendar year they reach the age of 14 until the end of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 18.

2.4. Competitors may take part in competitions and Championships for Children from the beginning of the calendar year in which they reach the age of 12 until the end of the calendar year they reach the age of 14.

3. Competitors who reach the age of 16 on or after 1 January may take part in competitions and championships for pony
riders until 31 July in the same calendar year. Competitors who reach the age of 16 on or after 1 August may take part in competitions and championships for pony riders until 31 December in the same calendar year. There is no minimum age restriction for a pony rider.

4. Competitors of the appropriate age may take part in competitions of more then one category in paragraph 1 to 5 above.

5. If a competition is not restricted to a specific category by the application of paragraphs 1 to 5 above, or any other restriction imposed by an OC, it shall be open to all horses, ponies and riders.

6. Adults may ride ponies in open competition, but not in competitions restricted to ponies and pony riders.

7. Dressage Rider Categories

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category N</th>
<th>(CN) Newcomers. For riders who have never earned grading points at any Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1</td>
<td>(C1) For riders who have never earned grading points at any level above Level 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2</td>
<td>(C2) For riders who have never earned grading points at any level above Level 2 and riders who have ridden at ESNZ Novice Horse Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3</td>
<td>(C3) For riders who have never earned grading points at any level above Level 3 and riders who have ridden at ESNZ Intermediate Horse Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 4</td>
<td>(C4) For riders who have never earned grading points at any level above Level 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 5</td>
<td>(C5) For riders who have never earned grading points at any level above Level 5 and riders who have ridden at ESNZ Advanced Horse Trials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 6</td>
<td>(C6) For riders who have never earned grading points at any level above Level 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 7</td>
<td>(C7) For riders who have never earned grading points at any level above Level 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 8</td>
<td>(C8) For riders who have never earned grading points at any level above Level 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 9</td>
<td>(C9) For riders who have earned grading points at Level 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category M</td>
<td>(CM) Masters. For Riders 55yrs &amp; over (age from the beginning of the calendar year that the rider turns 55)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Article 464 - Downgrading Of Horses & Ponies

1. Horses or Ponies may be downgraded, following an application to the ESNZ/Dressage NZ on the prescribed form together with any due fee, provided that:

2. The horse or pony may be downgraded to the highest level at which the applicant rider has competed except that it may not be downgraded below Level 2. Once registered as downgraded the horse/pony will remain subject to the downgrading rule para 5 for twelve months regardless of
points gained or level ridden. This applies regardless of ownership.

3. Upon gaining 30 points as defined in the table in Rule 460.1, that horse/pony may not compete in any level below that grade.

4. Only the approved rider may compete the horse at the downgraded level. If the horse/pony is competed by any other rider, the horse/pony automatically reverts to having its original points and the downgraded status is revoked except for national competition conditions referred to in para 5. Before any rider can compete the horse/pony at any level lower than its original grade, the process of downgrading must recommence.

5. Any horse/pony who has been downgraded may not compete with any rider, at any level, in any Island (ICH), National Championship Event (NCH) or other Event/Series/Class (specified by, and only at the discretion of Dressage NZ) within 12 months of the downgrading being approved, regardless of ownership.

6. The annual registration fees for the downgraded horse/pony will be charged at the amount set from time to time by Dressage NZ for the horse/pony's original grade for the first year of the downgrade and thereafter at the fee set for the level at which the horse is currently graded.

**Article 465 - Special Competitions**

1. To create more interest and variety in Dressage Competition for both riders and spectators it is intended that special competitions will from time to time be authorised by the Dressage Board in conjunction with the Rules Committee.

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 dressage, MUST submit their proposed conditions to the Dressage Rules subcommittee for authorisation by the Dressage Board.

4. Detailed conditions for special competitions must be set out in the schedule and in the programme for the event.

5. **Dressage with Jumping Competitions.**

5.1. When a test is ridden once to count for straight dressage and for the dressage phase of a Dressage with Jumping
competition, the same horse and rider are eligible to enter both competitions.

5.2. When a test is ridden for a straight dressage competition and for the dressage phase of a Dressage with Jumping Competition, the same horse may be ridden by one rider for the straight Dressage Competition and another rider for the dressage phase of the Dressage with Jumping Competition.

6. Test of Choice
Test of choice competitions are permitted at Advanced grade level 6 - 7 or 8 - 9 at Local Events. For grading purposes see Art 460 - 11.
CHAPTER V
PARTICIPATION

Article 470 - Use Of Tests
1. Tests other than those issued by the ESNZ may be used in competitions held under ESNZ Rules, only with the sanction of the Dressage NZ Judges Officer.
** NZPCA tests may be used at Pony Club events.

Article 471 - Freestyle Competitions

Note: When choreographing tests be aware of Rule 480 Para 1.3

1. Movements in all three paces of a similar degree of difficulty to those included in tests of the same level are to be performed. Refer to the official test in each level for details of compulsory, optional and non-permitted movements.

2. Timing of tests.

2.1. **Musical Freestyle.** A rider must enter the arena within 20 seconds of the music starting. The music should cease at the final salute. At the beginning and end of a Freestyle Test a halt for the salute is compulsory. The test time will start when the rider moves forward after the halt. Penalty for Exceeding Time allowed is the deduction of two points from the total for artistic presentation on each Judges Score Sheet.

2.2. **Non-Musical Freestyles.** A warning bell will be rung 30 seconds before the final time allowed and a bell rung again at the time allowed. If the second bell is rung before the test is completed, the rider must bring the test to an end as soon as possible by turning down the centre line and halting.

3. Score sheets for Judging Musical Freestyles at Levels 2,3,4,5,6/7 and Grand Prix are available. The scoring for those tests is included on the test sheets. These sheets may also be used for judging non-musical Freestyle tests by deleting the reference to music. If any other alterations are made to the test sheet both judges and competitors must be informed.

4. In the case of a rider's music failing during a freestyle test and in cases where there is no back up system, the rider may, with the permission of the President of the Ground
Jury, leave the arena. There should be minimum interference with the starting times of other riders. The affected rider should return to complete or restart his/her test during a scheduled break in the competition or at the end of the competition. The President of the Ground Jury, after conferring with the rider, will determine when the rider should return to the arena. 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.

**Article 472 - Arena**

1. Rope and tape arenas are prohibited at ALL dressage competitions run under ESNZ Rules for Dressage. **Pony Club refer to Annex 3 Para B.**
2. The arena should be as level as possible with the grass not too long. The arena must be enclosed, with the optional exception of the gateway, by a low fence about 30cm high. In exceptional circumstances intermittent white boards may be used placed at each corner and opposite each marker. The gateway should be approximately 2 metres wide. If a permitted arena material is used e.g. plastic chain, it must be at least 45cm but not more than 60cm above the ground.
3. The letters outside the enclosure should be placed about 0.50 meters from the 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.
4. 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.
5. 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. For freestyle tests and young horse tests a centre line is not recommended.
6. The public should be kept at least 10 metres from the arena. For indoor competitions the minimum distance should in principle be 3 metres.
7. The difference in elevation across the diagonal or along the length of the arena shall in no case exceed 0.50 metres. The difference in elevation along the short side of the arena shall in no case be more than 0.20 metres. The rails
of a fence, if used, should be such to prevent the horse's hooves from entering.

8. Depending on the state of the surface of the arena, the Technical Delegate or President of the Jury 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 classes to comply with this.

9. Arenas should, wherever possible, be erected with a minimum of three metres between them.

**Article 473 - Use Of Arena**

1. On no account and under penalty of disqualification, may a competitor/horse use the competition arenas at any time other than during his performance in a competition.

2. Exception: When an OC has stated that an arena is available for use other than for competition.

3. For indoor and special competitions exceptions may be made by the Technical Delegate or the Ground Jury. Riders must be notified of any exception being made.

4. When the President of the Ground Jury 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.

5. Competitors must remain inside the arena and then turn down the centre line at A when the bell is rung to start the test.

**Article 474 - Prohibited Schooling**

1. On no account and under penalty of disqualification from the entire event, may any horse take part in a dressage competition which has been schooled by anyone other than the competitor nominated mounted in the saddle, from midnight preceding the first competition of the Event until the conclusion of the Event.

2. This means for instance, that a groom mounted in the saddle may walk the horse on a long rein and that lunging and work in hand by someone other than the competitor are permitted.

3. If there is to be a change of rider at any time during an Event, (for any reason other then injury or illness, or special competition) the horse must then compete Hors
Concours in any further competitions at that Event. The change of rider must be notified to the OC and their approval for the substitution of the rider granted. Refer to Article 482 - Competing "Hors Concours" for other restrictions.

4. **NOTE**: Article 474 has been interpreted by several people in a manner that was never intended. It specifically refers to "schooling" and was never intended to prevent a friend from warming up a horse for a particular competition in which a rider may have more than one mount; and neither was it intended to prevent another rider jumping a horse in a competition when its regular rider may be competing in Dressage competitions. It may not always be easy to decide when "warming up" becomes "schooling", GR Article 100 Para 1 should cover the situation.

**Article 475 - 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 476 - Weight**

1. Catch weight will apply in all Dressage competitions.

**Article 477 - Saluting**

1. All riders must take the reins and whip (if carried) in the same hand. Ladies should then bow the head whilst the other arm is held straight down to the side. Men should doff the cap to the knee. In the event of a chinstrap being worn, men may salute in the same manner as ladies.  
   **Note**: The salute is taken by the Chief Judge only.

**Article 478 - Saddlery**

1. Only a plain saddle fully mounted, no saddle covers/seat savers are allowed.  
   **Pony Club refer to Annex 3 - Para C.**  
1.1. An ordinary snaffle or simple double bridle as laid down in the test. Simple double bridles are optional for Level 6 – 9, except for the “FEI” Tests where a simple double bridle, or as stated in the test, must be used.
**Note:** When a horse/pony is to compete in a test that allows only a snaffle bridle to be used, a double bridle is not allowed to be used in the warm up for that test.

2. With a simple double bridle, bit and bridoon with curb chain are obligatory, lip strap and rubber or leather cover for curb chain are optional. Padding is allowed on bridles.

3. Provided the mouthpiece is smooth, the permitted snaffle bits are shown in the captions and plates.

**NOTE:** 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.

4. Snaffle or bridoon and curb must be made of metal or rigid plastic and may be covered with rubber (wrapping of bits with any kind of material and flexible rubber bits are not permitted). The lever arm of the curb bit is limited to 10cm (length below the mouthpiece). If the curb has a sliding mouthpiece, the lever arm of the curb bit below the mouthpiece should not measure more than 10cm when the mouthpiece is at the uppermost position. Minimum diameter of mouthpiece to be 12mm for curb bit and 10mm for bridoon bit.

4.1 Snaffles used in young horse classes must have a minimum diameter of 14mm. Minimum diameter of snaffle bits for ponies is 10mm.

4.2 The diameter of the mouthpiece is measured adjacent to the rings or the cheeks of the mouthpiece.

5. A dropped or grackle (crossed) noseband may be used only with a snaffle bridle. A dropped noseband consists of a head piece and a single strap round the horse's nose below the bit.

6. A grackle (crossed) noseband consists of a headpiece and two straps crossed and connected on the nose and buckled separately beneath the head, one above and one below the bit, the upper strap passing through or connected to the ends of the headpiece.

7. The cavesson or noseband may be lined. The lining must be secure, but need not be attached.

8. Any one of the following nosebands may be used with a snaffle bridle: cavesson, dropped, flash or grackle (also known as a crossed or Mexican noseband) see diagram page 64. Only a cavesson noseband may be used with a double bridle.
8.1. No noseband may ever be so tightly fixed that it will harm the horse.

9. Martingales, bit guards, any kind of gadgets (such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins etc), any kind of boots, bandages or nose nets, and any form of blinkers including ear muffs, hoods and any others, and shadow blinds are, under penalty of elimination, strictly forbidden. Breastplates are permitted.

10. Any decoration of the horse with extravagant things, such as ribbons or flowers etc, in the tail, etc is strictly forbidden. Normal plaiting of the horses mane and tail, however, is allowed. False tails may not contain any metal parts.

11. Paragraphs 1 to 10 above apply at all times from arrival on the event grounds except that a running martingale (with snaffle bridle only), boots, bandages and nose nets are permitted when training or warming up. When lungeing, single direct side reins, or double sliding side reins (triangle) are permitted. Lungeing is allowed with one lunge line only.

   Double sliding side reins (triangle/dreieck zügel)

   **Note:** It is **not** permitted to ride a horse or pony in single direct side reins or double sliding (triangle) side reins

12. Any judge suspecting that a competitor is using an illegal bit may ask to inspect the bit, or request a steward to inspect the bit in question immediately after the completion of the test. Failure to comply with the request will entail automatic disqualification from the test concerned.

13. In the interests of promoting safety in the sport, Dressage New Zealand and the NZPCA 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.

13.1. Such items must be approved by Dressage New Zealand and such approval will be gazetted by publication in Equestrian NZ (the Bulletin) and a schedule of Approved Safety Equipment will be maintained by Dressage New Zealand.
Captions to plates showing permitted bits

**Various double bridle bits**

**Bridoons:**
1. Loose ring bridoon bit
2 a,b,c Bridoon bit with jointed mouthpiece where the middle piece should be rounded. Eggbutt sides also allowed.
2 d Bridoon bit with rotating middle piece
2 e Bridoon Rotary bit with rotating middle piece
3. Egg-butt bridoon bit
4. Bridoon bit with hanging cheeks

**Curbs:**
5. Half-moon curb bits
6. +7. Curb bit with straight cheeks and port
8. Curb bit with port and sliding mouthpiece (Weymouth)
   A curb bit with rotating lever arm is also allowed
9. Variation of bits No 6, 7 & 8
10. Curb bit with S-curved cheeks
11. Curb chain (metal or leather or a combination)
12. Lip strap
13. Leather cover for curb chain
14. Rubber cover for curb chain

**Various snaffle bridle bits**
1. Loose ring snaffle
2 a,b,c,d,e Snaffle with jointed mouthpiece where middle piece should be rounded
3. Egg-butt snaffle
4. Racing snaffle D-ring
5. Egg-butt snaffle with cheeks
6. Loose ring snaffle with cheeks (Fulmer)
7. Snaffle with upper cheeks only
8. Hanging cheek snaffle
9. Straight bar snaffle. Permitted also with mullen mouth and with eggbutt rings.
10. Snaffle with rotating mouthpiece
11. Snaffle with rotating middle piece
12. Rotary bit with rotating middle piece
Various double bridle bits

Bridoons:

1

2a

3

2b

4

2c

2d

2e
Curbs:

Note: Curb chain hooks must not be fixed.
Various snaffle bridle bits

1

2a

3

2b

4

2c

5

6

7

7

8

9

10

11
12. Rotary bit
Permitted nosebands

1. Dropped noseband

2. Cavesson noseband

3. Flash noseband

4. Crossed noseband / Mexican noseband

5. Micklem bridle
DRESSAGE NZ SCHEDULE OF APPROVED SAFETY EQUIPMENT
(Effective from 1 August 2007)
Such approval does not in any way imply any endorsement of a particular product from an individual manufacturer or supplier.

1. A short strap fastened to "D" rings on the pommel of a saddle (commonly referred to as a "Monkey Strap") is approved for use as a safety device for riders at competitions.

2. Stirrup irons of the type commonly referred to as "Toe Stoppers" are approved for use as a safety device for riders at competitions.

3. Neck straps are approved as a safety device for riders use at competitions at Levels 0, 1 & 2. (A single plain strap fitted in one loop around the horses neck).

4. Horse and Pony identification numbers must be worn at all times whilst exercising and competing at Events run under ESNZ rules for Dressage. Numbers MUST only 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.

It is permissible to provide your own ID numbers.
Specifications: ID Numbers MUST be white background with black numbers. The numbers must be a minimum of 4.5cm high, but no more than 5.5cm high. They should be approximately 5mm wide. The white background must be a minimum of 9 x 6cm and should be no more than 10 x 7cm. Failure to display ID numbers as described, without a reason acceptable to the ground jury, may result in a warning, fine or disqualification from the competition as per ESNZ GR Article 174.

**Pony Club refer Annex 3 Para D

Article 479 - Whips
1. A whip may be carried in any test except “the FEI tests” at the NZ Dressage Championships and the HOY Show. When a whip is permitted to be used, the use of one whip with a total maximum length of 120cm (including flapper) for horses, and 100cm (including flapper) for ponies may be used.

2. In classes where a whip is not permitted the penalty for carrying a whip of any kind while competing in the arena is
elimination. However, the use of one whip, with a total maximum length of 120cm for horses or 100cm for ponies, in the practice area is allowed.

2.1. The whip must be dropped before entering the space around the competition arena or the rider will entail a penalty of 4 points per judge.

3. Upon arrival at the event grounds, only the rider when riding, walking, leading or lungeing a horse (lunge whip allowed), is allowed to carry a whip (maximum 120cm for horses or 100cm for ponies) anywhere on the event ground. The groom may also walk, lead and lunge a horse as above. Other parties are allowed to carry a whip, provided it is not in connection with the training of the horse.

**Article 480 - Dress**

1. Graded competitions
   Dress Code specific for Level 5 & 6 and above refer also to 480.3 and 480.4
   - **Coat**
     - Black, dark*, or tweed up to and incl Level 4
   - **Breeches/Jodhpurs**
     - Up to & incl level 4: White, off white, beige, banana or pale grey
     - Refer to 480.3 & 480.4 for Level 5, and Level 6 & above
   - **Boots**
     - Jodhpurs & Jodhpur Boots up to and incl Level 4.
     - Boots & Gaiters up to and incl Level 5.
     - Jodhpur Boots and/or Gaiters must be black or brown.
     - Riding Boots can be worn at all levels but are compulsory in Level 6 & above.
     - Riding Boots may be black, brown or the same colour as the coat.
   - **Gaiters**
     - Only up to and including Level 5. See also 480.2 re gaiter specifications
   - **Hat**
     - NZ safety standards approved helmet with harness or top hat or bowler hat (top hat or bowler must be black or may be the same colour as the jacket).
     - Top hat & bowler only as in 1.2
   - **Stock or tie**
     - White or off white or may be the same colour as the jacket
   - **Shirt**
     - Choker style collar, or shirt with tie
Gloves

White, off white or the same colour as the jacket are optional up to and incl Level 4 but are compulsory at level 5 and above.

*Dark is defined as those colours within the international HSV colour scale with a “v” value less than 32%).

Colours with a “v” value greater than 32% may be approved on application to the FEI. Colours approved by the FEI will be approved by Dressage NZ on proof of FEI approval.

Contrast piping and colouring is allowed. One contrasting colour is allowed on the collar of the jacket, and the waistcoat. If the collar is a contrasting colour to the jacket then the waistcoat must be the same contrasting colour.

Lapels and pocket flaps MUST NOT be a contrasting colour to the jacket. Piping in one contrasting colour is allowed at the collar, cuffs and pocket flaps. Jacket buttons can be the same colour as the jacket, or, gold, silver, bronze, or nickel coloured..

(a). In a training event or non graded competition run under ESNZ rules for Dressage, it is permissible for riders in levels 1, 2 and 3 competitions to wear suitable Pony Club, Riding Club, or OC approved dress standard, except that a current NZ safety standards approved helmet with harness MUST be worn.

**Pony Club refer Annex 3 Para E.

1.1. In all training and practice at the competition venue all riders must wear a NZ safety standards approved helmet (as in 1 above) at all times. Except that: Top hats or bowler hats (as in 1 - 2 below) may be worn in the competition which includes the final warm up and presentation.

1.2. Top Hats and Bowler Hats may only be worn in competitions at Level 5 and above. (See 1 and 1 - 1 above)

1.3. Under penalty of elimination, a rider's hat may not be deliberately removed, except for the halt at the first and final salute. Male riders wearing a helmet with harness are not required to remove their helmet at the salute.

2. If gaiters are worn, they must be principally made of smooth full grain leather, so when the rider is mounted in the saddle, the visible part of the gaiter resembles as closely as possible, leather riding boots normally worn in dressage competition. Matching black or brown boots must be worn. Gaiters are acceptable up to and including Level 5. Chapettes (suede) are not permitted.
3. In competitions of Level 5 standard and above, riders must wear a black or dark coat, white, off white or beige breeches, riding boots or boots and gaiters (gaiters at level 5 only), NZ safety standards approved helmet with harness or top hat or bowler hat, stock, or collar with tie and gloves. (see 1 above)

4. In competitions of Level 6 standard and above riders must either wear dress as per 480.3

**OR**
A black or dark tail coat. Colours having a value for “V” greater than 32% according to the HSV model, may be approved by application to the FEI Dressage Dept..

Top hat ** Black or may be same colour as coat
Breeches White or off white
Stock or tie White, off white or same colour as coat
Gloves White, off white or same colour as coat
Riding Boots Black or same colour as coat
Spurs see para 5

** If for safety reasons an athlete wishes to wear approved protective headgear, this is permitted.

5. **Spurs are not compulsory in any competition run under ESNZ / Dressage NZ Rules.**
Spurs 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 rider’s boot. 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. Metal spurs with round hard plastic knobs are allowed (“impuls spur”). “Dummy” spurs with no shanks are allowed. 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.

6. Under penalty of elimination, the use of earphones by riders are strictly forbidden at all dressage events when
competing. Earphones are however, permitted during training and warm up.

7. **Pony Club Jewellery, Hair**, refer Annex 3 - Para F & G.

8. **Pony Club Gear Inspection**, refer Annex 3 Para H.

**Article 481 - Penalties For Contravening Rules 478 & 480**

1. Anyone entering the arena with incorrect saddlery, dress or equipment or in any other way not complying with the Rules will be eliminated from the class. However, if both Judge and Organiser agree, the competitor may be allowed to enter the arena again, properly equipped and perform the Test. Marks given, will not be included in the final classification.

**Article 482 - Competing "Hors Concours"**

1. A horse may be permitted to take part in a competition "Hors Concours" at any level.

2. Permission must be obtained from the Organising Committee. 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 Dressage NZ.

4. The rider 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.

6. The competitor may take part in the first round only and may not participate in any ride-off.

**Article 483 - Disabled Riders**

1. Any rider with a physical disability which prevents him/her from riding the Test in accordance with these Articles, should apply to the Dressage Chairman for a Special Dispensation Certificate.

2. Any rider with a physical disability which prevents them from complying with the dress code in Article 480, should apply to the Dressage Chairman for a Special Dispensation Certificate.

3. Any rider holding a Special Dispensation certificate under rule 483 must attach a copy of their certificate of
dispensation to their entries so that the OC can inform the judges of the dispensation.

**Article 484 - Technical Delegates & Event Stewards**

Dressage NZ recommends

1. That Organising Committees appoint a suitably experienced person who will probably but not necessarily be a National judge to act as Technical Delegate for all major events.

1.1. That Organising Committees appoint an Event Steward or Stewards.

2. Their duties will be those listed in ESNZ GR's Art 144 "Stewards" and Arts 156 and 157 "Technical Delegates".

**Article 485 - Presentation Of Prizes**

1. In most cases, prizes will be presented to the winning riders unmounted, but riders must be correctly attired as for the Dressage Test. For mounted prize giving dress and saddlery must be the same as for the competition, however white or black boots or bandages are allowed.

2. 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. 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. 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.
ANNEX 1:

CLASSIFICATION OF DRESSAGE EVENTS
Also refer to ESNZ GR's 105-109

1. TRAINING EVENT (TE): Non - graded competition only, but can be any LEVEL. Prizes etc as per ESNZ GR's.
2. LOCAL EVENT (LE): Non graded and / or graded competitions.
3. REGIONAL EVENT (RE) : Only graded competition (except for special competitions). The date & summary schedule must be published in the bulletin.
   a). In principle, no Regional Event may be held in an adjacent area or within 200km on the same day.
   b). At least one competition per day at a RE must be Level 8 or 9
   c). ICH are considered to be REGIONAL Events
4. NATIONAL & other NF Named Events/
   a). National Dressage Championships & HOYS (Dressage section) shall for the purposes of administration and promotion be considered as *** Events.
   b). ICH are considered to be named events.
   c). Dressage NZ may establish other named events as per GR 109.
   d). All Dressage NZ National and Named Events must be organised under the GR’s and VR’s of ESNZ or the FEI, including where applicable, the provisions of article 109.
   e). The conditions proposed by the OC of North Island, South Island, NZ Young Rider National Dressage Championships, NZ National Dressage Championships and NZ Horse of the Year Show (Dressage section) must be submitted to Dressage NZ for approval by the Dressage NZ Board.
ANNEX 2:

RIDER AGE GROUP DRESSAGE COMPETITIONS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

Objects:

a). To encourage riders by providing competitions in which they will not have to compete against more experienced riders.

b). Age of Riders: Competitions and Championships may be held for any age group or combination of age groups as defined in Art 463.

c). Grade of Horse: As per schedule.

d). Ownership of Horse: Unrestricted.

e). Number of horses per rider: As per schedule.

f). Area OC's and ESNZ affiliated OC's may determine their own procedure for determining Rider Age Group Champions.
ANNEX 3:

ADDITIONAL NZ PONY CLUB ASSOCIATION DRESSAGE RULES

A. Ground Jury and Appeal Committee

Ground Jury:
The Ground Jury will consist of the two Dressage Judges and the local Area Delegate to the Committee of Management or his/her appointee.

Appeal Committee:
The Appeal Committee shall consist of the Chairperson of the NZPCA Dressage Committee or his/her appointee, a member of the NZPCA Committee of Management and a Dressage Judge, who are not part of the Organising Committee.

Objections

1. At Championships, objections to the Ground Jury may only be made by a member of the Organising Committee or by Team Managers. At Area Trials and other events, objections may be made by the Organising Committee, Team Manager, participating rider, parent or guardian.

2. The objector to discuss their complaint with the TD.

3. The TD will collect all relevant information relating to the objector's complaint and advise them further if there are grounds to lodge a written objection.

4. If the objection is to proceed, it must be lodged in writing with the event Secretary within the specified timeframe. The objection is to be accompanied by a deposit of $30.

5. The Secretary will notify the Chief Judge that a written objection has been received. The Chief Judge will call a meeting of the Ground Jury, after deliberating, will give a ruling. This is the first time that the Chief Judge should have had any contact with the objection.

6. If the objector is dissatisfied with the Ground Jury's ruling, they may lodge a written appeal with the event Secretary within the specified timeframe. The objection is to be accompanied by a further fee of $30.

7. Time limits for lodging objections will be: Not later than half an hour after the happening that gave rise to the objection or, where marks are concerned, within half an hour of the posting of the marks. In the case of an objection to the Arena, or to the qualification of competitors, objections
must be placed not later than 1 hour prior to the start of the Event.

8. The Appeal Committee's decision shall be final.

9. The deposit shall be refunded if the objection or appeal is upheld. If the objection or appeal is rejected, the deposit may be refunded at the discretion of the committee concerned.

B. **Arena:**

1. Arena borders must be of one type; rope, picket, plastic pipe etc. and NOT a combination of any of the above.

2. Where a rope arena is used, in the interest of safety it is recommended that the ropes should be able to be released readily from the standards. The rope must be at least 45cms and not more than 60cms above the ground. NB: Electric fence standards and tape are not suitable.

C. **Saddle:**

Plain saddle, and in the interest of safety, the stirrup leathers and irons must hang free from the bar of the saddle and outside the flap. There must be no other restriction or attachment of any kind. Where a surcingle is used it must be ensured that it does not restrict the release of the leathers from the bars.

D. **Identification Numbers:**

At the NZPCA Dressage Championships Horse and Pony Identification back or arm numbers must be worn at all times whilst exercising and competing.

E. **Helmets:** A properly fitting, securely fastened, correctly maintained helmet meeting the following standards MUST be worn.

- PAS 015 (British Standard)
- BSEN 1384 (joint British/European Standard)
- EN 1384 (European Standard)
- AS/NZS 3838 (joint Australia/New Zealand Standard)
- ASTM F1163 (American Standard)

F. **Jewellery:** Ear-rings, ear studs and any exposed jewellery must be removed or taped. Tongue studs must be removed.

G. **Hair:** The wearing of a hairnet, or plaited pigtail(s) for members with long hair is compulsory.

H. **Gear Inspection:** It is the responsibility of the competitors that their dress and saddlery are in accordance with the rules. At Pony Club competitions there may be a Gear Inspection. It is the riders responsibility to make sure their
gear has been inspected to the satisfaction of the Gear Inspector before starting. Failure to do so entails elimination.

**NOTE:** Refer to the current NZPCA Teams Dressage Championship Rules and Regulations for Area Trials and Championship Rules and for any eventuality not covered in Dressage NZ Rules.
ANNEX 4:

ARENA SPECIFICATIONS

Also refer to Article 472 (page 53)

Arena
40m x 20m
Diagonal 44.721m

Arena
60m x 20m
Diagonal 63.245m
1. NAME
The name of the Organisation shall be Dressage NZ, a discipline of the New Zealand Equestrian Federation.

2. INTERPRETATIONS
Except where expressly excluded, or the context otherwise requires, the Rules of the New Zealand Equestrian Federation shall apply.

3. OBJECTS AND FUNCTIONS of the Discipline shall be:
(i) To promote and encourage the furtherance of Dressage within New Zealand under the Rules and Regulations and By-Laws of the New Zealand Equestrian Federation, and where desirable, under International Rules.
(ii) To provide opportunities for the acquisition and diffusion of skills and information, relating to Dressage.
(iii) To consider and approve amendments to the Rules governing Dressage NZ.
(iv) To educate, assess and appoint Judges for Dressage NZ.
(v) Subject to the Rules and policy of the New Zealand Equestrian Federation, to affiliate with any organisations whether operating within New Zealand or overseas, which have objects similar to or compatible with those of Dressage New Zealand.

4. MEMBERSHIP
Membership is open to all members of the New Zealand Equestrian Federation upon fulfilment of any conditions imposed by the Committee.

5. ADMINISTRATION
Dressage NZ shall be administered by a Conference, a Committee and the Dressage NZ Board, hereafter referred to as "the Board".
6. **CONFERENCE shall meet annually.**

i. The Conference shall be open to all financial members of the New Zealand Equestrian Federation. Only financial members of the New Zealand Equestrian Federation have voting rights at Conference.

ii. Other persons may attend as observers but may not vote and may only speak with the permission of the Chairman.

iii. Receive and consider:

   ▪ The Annual report of the preceding year from the Chairman.
   ▪ The Annual accounts.
   ▪ The Annual Plan.
   ▪ Remits from individual members and Dressage Area Groups.

iv. The Committee and/or the Board, as directed by Conference, shall consider remits accepted by Conference.

v. To receive and confirm the appointment of Dressage Area Delegates.

vi. All the above mentioned material must be received in writing by the Secretary and available to Dressage Area Groups at least three weeks prior to the Conference.

7. **THE COMMITTEE shall comprise:**

i. Dressage Area Delegates as confirmed in accordance with 6(v) above.

ii. North and South Island Riders Representatives as elected annually at riders meetings held in each Island for that purpose.

iii. The Chief Selector

iv. The Technical Officer.

v. The Judges Officer.

vi. The Pony and Young Rider Development Officer as appointed to the Training and Development Sub-committee.

vii. The members of the Dressage NZ Board.

viii. The President and the CEO of the New Zealand Equestrian Federation ex officio.

ix. The Committee may co-opt any person to the Committee for any specific purpose with such powers as the Committee shall think fit.
8. **DRESSAGE AREA DELEGATES.**

Each area of the NZEF Dressage Discipline shall appoint one delegate to the Committee. The delegate having been elected by the financial members of the Dressage Area Group at a meeting held for this purpose, and the appointment being notified to the Secretary at least four weeks prior to the Conference.

9. **FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE shall be:**

i. To consider matters referred to it by Conference, the Chairman of the Board, or by the New Zealand Equestrian Federation.

ii. To approve the Annual Plan.

iii. To consider the policy of Dressage NZ both within New Zealand and as it applies to New Zealand riders competing overseas.

iv. To consider and approve Rules providing for the regulation and effective administration and exercise of the Dressage Discipline.

   - Any consideration requiring alteration to Dressage NZ rules, regulations, or constitution requires a 75% majority of the Committee vote.
   - Any other consideration requires a simple majority of the Committee vote.
   - Any approval that is not unanimous requires a ballot process to be followed.

v. To consider and approve the Boards recommendations concerning financial charges for the coming year.

vi. To elect the Chairman, three Board Members, Office Holders, and a Representative on the Appointment Panel.

10. **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

i. The COMMITTEE shall meet within 21 days after the Annual Conference and at least once more during the year. The Chairman shall appoint the date of each meeting.

ii. Any five members of the Committee may request the Chairman to hold a meeting of the Committee. Such a request shall not be unreasonable denied.

iii. Twelve members of the Committee, including the Chairman, shall form a quorum.
11. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

At its first meeting following CONFERENCE, the Committee shall elect a Chairman, a Financial Officer, a Technical Officer and one other as the Technical sub-committee, and a Judges Officer and two others as the Judges sub-committee.

i. The Secretary must receive nominations at least six weeks prior to the meeting. A member of the Committee, an Area Dressage Group Secretary or a financial member of the NZEF may make nominations.

ii. The nomination should be accompanied by a CV of the intended nominee and include their written consent to nomination.

iii. The Secretary shall give notice of every such nomination and accompanying particulars to every COMMITTEE member with voting rights, at least three weeks prior to the meeting.

12. **DRESSAGE NZ OFFICERS**

In accordance with 11 hereof, Officers will be elected in the following order with a separate election being held for each position in turn, PROVIDED THAT if no nomination of such a person has been received, nominations for that office may be taken from the floor.

i. Chairman, as an elected Board Member.

ii. Financial Officer, as an elected Board Member.

iii. Technical Officer as an elected Board Member, and one Technical sub-committee member.

iv. Judges Officer as an elected Board Member, and two Judges sub-committee members.

13. **DRESSAGE NZ BOARD**

Board Members will be the Chairman and three elected members.

An Appointment Panel, made up of the Chairman, the Financial Officer, and the Committee Representative elected in 9(vi) hereof will appoint two additional members.

The Board shall comprise:

i. The Chairman as elected.

ii. The Financial Officer as elected.

iii. The Technical Officer as elected.

iv. The Judges Officer as elected.

v. The Marketing and Communications Officer as appointed.
vi. The Training and Riders Development Officer as appointed.

vii. The Dressage Sports Manager and NZEF C.E.O - in attendance.

14. FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD shall be:
   i. The administration of Dressage New Zealand.
   ii. To recommend any Annual Fees/Levies and Charges.

15. BOARD PROCEDURES
   i. The Board may regulate its own procedure and may co-opt, appoint or employ individuals or committees for any specific purpose.
   ii. The Quorum for the Board shall consist of 3 Board Members.
   iii. Any member of the Board unable to attend a meeting may, with the consent of the Chairman, appoint a substitute.
   iv. Non voting observers may attend any Board meeting if invited by the Chairman and may only speak at the invitation of the Chairman.

16. FINANCIAL
   i. Finances of Dressage NZ shall be governed by the Board.
   ii. Officers will be appointed by the Board to sign all cheques.
   iii. The financial year for Dressage NZ shall be the same as that of the NZEF.
   iv. A full set of statement of accounts and all financial documents shall be available to the NZEF.
   v. The auditor for Dressage NZ shall be the Auditor appointed by the NZEF.
   vi. The funds of Dressage NZ shall consist of all fees/levies as approved by the Committee, all monies gained by sponsorship, donations, gifts, bequests, or such other monies as paid to or derived from Dressage New Zealand.

17. SELECTORS
   In order to maintain continuity of Selection for major Events such as Olympic Games, Selectors will be elected for four year terms in a “rollover system” so that only one selector will be elected in any year. Selectors will be nominated by areas and appointed by the Appointment Panel for a four year term. They will be subjected to a yearly review.
They will nominate one from their number who will be the Chief Selector, and who will have a position on the Committee.

18. RIDERS REPRESENTATIVES.
The North and South Island Riders Representatives will be elected annually by riders attending the Riders Meetings held at the North and South Island Championships. The two Riders Reps will hold a position on the Committee in accordance with 7(ii) above.
The Riders Representative will organise and Chair the Riders Meeting at their respective Island Championships.

i. Any rider who pays a Competitor Membership to the NZEF is entitled to speak at these meetings.

ii. A parent or guardian may speak on behalf of a Junior member.

iii. Board Members may attend the meeting as observers.

19. DRESSAGE STEWARD GENERAL
A Steward General for Dressage will be appointed by the Board.

20. NATIONAL CENTRE REPRESENTATIVES
Representatives from the Dressage Discipline to the North and South Island Centres will be appointed by the Board.