

NOTES TO THE HORSE TRIALS GEAR INSPECTOR: -

1. Conditions of entry will state the dress code to be worn at any competition as agreed to by the organising committee of that competition.
2. Dress and Saddlery will be inspected before each phase and will take place at the time and place as stated in the printed programme. After being passed no change will be made.
3. Competitors with unsafe or forbidden gear will replace it and be ready to start on time under penalty of elimination.
4. It is the responsibility of the rider to make sure that his/her gear has been inspected to the satisfaction of the Gear Inspector before starting. Failure to do so will entail elimination.
4. Gear Inspector to tick (✓) box for pass or cross (X) for fail.
5. Leave time for recheck. Use a contrasting pen for recheck.
6. Gear Inspectors must have a current NZPCA Horse Trials rule book in their possession and be conversant with the rules.

DRESS

DRESS - For the Dressage phase a riding jacket with collar and tie or white or pale coloured hunting stock must be worn. For other events; In the Dressage and Show-jumping phases, a riding jacket with collar and tie or white or pale coloured hunting or formal Pony Club uniform in Club/Branch colours may be worn. For the Cross Country phase a long sleeved sweatshirt, rugby shirt or jersey must be worn, preferably in Club/Branch colours. The wearing of a strong hairnet or plaited pigtailed for competitors with long hair is compulsory.

FOOTWEAR - For all Pony Club competitions*, jodphur boots (black or brown), long riding boots (being black or brown) or (black boots with brown tops) or two piece boots* (black or brown) must be worn. If two piece boots are worn, they must be plain dress leather or full grain leather with no added adornments. Both pieces must be matching.

Note: *Competitions include Horse Trials, ODE's SJ Days.

*The top half of the two piece boots are known as gaiters and sometimes referred to as chapettes or ½ chaps.

*A gaiter is defined as a piece of leather from below the knee down to the ankle.

*Gaiters, chapettes or ½ chaps made of cloth or suede are **NOT** permitted.

JEWELLERY - Ear-rings, ear-studs and any exposed jewellery must be removed or taped. Tongue studs must be removed.

HELMET

HELMETS - For all phases, a medium protection safety helmet **MUST** be worn. The helmet must include a retaining harness secured to the shell at more than two points and secured with a chinstrap which is properly adjusted and fastened meeting one of the following standards: PAS 015, BSEN 1384, EN 1384, AS/NZS 3838 or ASTM F1163. Rider must dismount and remove helmet for inspection.

SAFETY

SAFETY is of paramount importance. Checklist -

1. Helmet correctly fitted.
2. Stitching/buckles particularly on reins, stirrup leathers and girths
3. Condition of stirrup leathers - the holes and wear
4. Stirrup irons sound and correct size
5. Stirrup bars down
6. Wearing of medical armbands with riders medical card for jumping phases.

SADDLERY

SADDLE and STIRRUPS - For all three phases, plain saddle, and in the interests of safety the stirrup iron and stirrup leathers must hang free from the bar of the saddle and outside the flap. There must be no other restriction or attachment of any kind.

For the Cross-country and Show-jumping phases, the saddlery may be changed with the following exceptions:

(i) Blinkers or hoods of any-kind.

(ii) Martingales, (other than a running Martingale), side or running reins are forbidden.

(iii) In the interest of safety in all 3 phases the stirrup iron and stirrup leathers must hang free from the bar of the saddle and outside the flap. There must be no other restrictions or attachments of any kind. Where a surcingle is used it must be ensured that it does not restrict the release of the stirrup leathers from the bars. Breast plates are permitted.

* Toe-stoppers are permitted.

BRIDLE and BITS - For the Dressage phase, an ordinary snaffle bridle. The bit in manufactured condition without any additional covering to or on any part. Provided the mouthpiece is smooth, the following bits are classified as ordinary snaffles:

(i) Plain ring snaffle

(ii) Egg-Butt

(iii) D-Ring

(iv) Fulmer

(v) Cheek Snaffle

(vi) Tom Thumb

(vii) Straight Bar

(viii) Half Moon

(ix) Hanging cheek snaffle

(x) Snaffle with upper cheeks only

(xi) Ordinary snaffle with double jointed mouth piece with lozenge .

(xii) Unjointed, wavy, plastic or rubber with cheeks.

(xiii) Ordinary snaffle with rotating mouth piece.

Double Jointed snaffle provided there is only one mouthpiece. A Dr. Bristol bit, ie where the link-plate is long, flat & set at an angle, is NOT classed as an ordinary snaffle. Vulcanite, rubber and nylon bits are permissible in Dressage Tests provided they comply with the above. Check for wear and tear and stitching.

Cross country and show jumping, Gags or European/mechanical hackamores are allowed. Halters of any type, made from rope or other material, are not allowed. (N.B. The use of a Market Harborough is prohibited in all phases). All reins must be attached to the bit(s) or directly to the bridle.

WHIPS and SPURS - For the Dressage phase at championships, whips are not allowed. For other events, whips may be carried subject to local rules.

For the cross country and show jumping phases, the whip must have a flapper adequate to prevent the end of the whip injuring the horse. The overall length of whip including flapper must not exceed 75cm.

Spurs must be of smooth metal, and have a shank pointing towards the rear which must be no more than 3.5cm long and without rowels. The end must be blunt and incapable of wounding a horse. If a shank is curved the spurs must be worn with the shank directed downwards.

BANDAGES - All bandages in the cross-country phase must be stitched to the satisfaction of the Gear Inspector. Boots with velcro fastenings are not required to be stitched.