

NOTES TO THE DRESSAGE GEAR INSPECTOR

To be read in conjunction with the current NZPCA Dressage Rules and Regulations

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 as stated in the printed programme. After being passed no change may 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. (The exception is NZPCA Championships).
4. Gear Inspector to tick (✓) box for pass or cross (✗) for fail.
5. Leave time for recheck. Use a contrasting pen for recheck.
6. Gear Inspectors must have a current NZPCA Dressage rule book in their possession and be conversant with the rules.

DRESS

DRESS - as stated in 'Conditions of Entry', Pony Club uniform or a black, dark or tweed coat with a white or pale coloured stock, shirt with choker style collar, or shirt with a tie must be worn.

Gloves: It is correct, but not compulsory to wear gloves.

Hairnet: The wearing of a hairnet or plaited pigtails for members with long hair is compulsory.

FOOTWEAR - Jodhpur boots (black or brown), long riding boots (being black or dark brown) or two piece boots* (being black or dark 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.

*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.

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.

SADDLERY

SADDLE and STIRRUPS - 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. Where a surcingle is used it must be ensured that it does not restrict the release of the stirrup leathers from the bars. *Toe-stoppers are permitted.

BRIDLE - Ordinary snaffle as laid down in the test. With the simple double bridle, bit and bridoon are obligatory, lipstrap and rubber or leather cover for the curb chain are optional, cavesson noseband only.

NOSEBANDS - Only one of either a dropped, flash, grackle, or cavesson may be worn with a snaffle bridle.

OTHER EQUIPMENT - Martingales, any kind of gadgets such as bearing, side, running or balancing reins etc. are forbidden. Only single direct side reins or double sliding side reins - triangle (solely when lunging only with one lunge line), running martingales, boots or bandages are permitted when training or warming up. Breast plates are permitted.

SPURS - Any spurs capable of wounding a horse are forbidden throughout the competition. Only blunt spurs without rowels may be worn. Taped rowels or jockey spurs will not be accepted. Spurs must not be worn with the shank facing upwards. Spurs are not allowed in the Beginner Riding Tests A to F.

WHIPS - A whip total maximum length of 120cm (including flapper) for horses, and 100cm (including flapper) for ponies may be carried in all Pony Club Dressage events including the NZPCA Teams Dressage Championship Event. Upon arrival on the showground, only the rider when riding, walking, leading or lunging a horse (lunge whip allowed), is allowed to carry a whip (maximum 120cm for horses or 100cm for ponies) anywhere on the showground. 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.

HELMET

HELMETS - 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.

BITS

(i) Provided the mouthpiece is smooth, **ONLY** the following bits are classified as ordinary snaffles:

1. Loose Ring Snaffle
2. 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
10. Snaffle with rotating mouthpiece
11. Snaffle with rotating middlepiece
12. Rotary ball joint type bit

* NB. 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.

(ii) Vulcanite, rubber and nylon bits are permissible in dressage tests provided they comply with paragraph (i) above.