



AUSTRALIAN CARRIAGE DRIVING SOCIETY INC.

**AUSTRALIAN
DRIVEN DRESSAGE
MANUAL**

**for Judges, Drivers and
interested people**

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THE AUSTRALIAN CARRIAGE DRIVING SOCIETY

DRIVEN DRESSAGE MANUAL

INTRODUCTION

Every driven dressage judge and driver will benefit from owning a copy of this Manual. It is an invaluable guide for improving every aspect of driven dressage judging. It assists drivers with training, in the pursuit of excellence as they learn what judges are expecting them to produce.

The Manual has developed since Ann Robertson first compiled this handy reference. The ACDS acknowledges Ann's exceptional dedication to the project and Katrina Wattchow for setting up the initial Manual. Many thanks also to Tina Marshall, Michelle Jones and Anne Synnot for their written contributions and to Margie Morgan for the test diagrams.

Special thanks must be given to the State Dressage Convenors, dressage judges and drivers who have assisted with the development of this project.

RULE CHANGES – 2011 Rules for Driving

The Article numbers referred to in this Manual are from the 2009 Rules for Driving with ACDS Variations effective 1 September 2011.

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CHAPTER ONE

DRIVEN DRESSAGE GRADING SYSTEM

CHAPTER 1 - GUIDELINES FOR DRIVEN DRESSAGE GRADING SYSTEM

[The following rules do NOT relate to CDE dressage]

1. Introduction

- a. By definition, the object of dressage is the harmonious development of the physique and ability of the horse through progressive training.
- b. It seems that many people have now become involved in competitive driving without prior experience of ridden dressage. This means that they may not have a background that would help them with the systematic training of the horse. Rather, they have been thrown in at the deep end and expected to produce the requirements of an Open test without knowledge of how to achieve even the basic principles.
- c. The aim of the grading system in driven dressage is to encourage the correct training and development of the horse while offering achievable goals for the driver.
- d. The structure of a grading system which offers six levels of competition is an effort to guide the competitor and the horse through this training in a continuous, systematic and progressive manner to achieve a calm, supple and obedient horse which is also confident, attentive and anxious to please in his work.
- e. Viceroy's are not permitted in graded dressage.
- f. Presentation, either at the halt or on the move, is not to be included in the scoring for graded dressage.
- g. Multiples, if driven in a vehicle not fitted with brakes, must have breeching fitted.

2. The Grading System

The current levels recommended for Graded Dressage are Preliminary, Novice, Elementary, Intermediate, Open, Advanced.

Annex 1A details the specifications of requirements and movements for each level. The tests currently being used fit the levels described. Additional tests can be developed to fit within the parameters of the movements of each level outlined.

3. Grading

- a. It is the single horse/pony or combination in multiples that is graded, not the driver. Multiples may start competing at any level and consist of:
 - (1) Pairs and Tandems - three nominated horses; and

- (2) Four-in-hands - six nominated horses.
- b. Any of the nominated horses may be substituted into the multiple for a competition.
- c. Competitors are allowed to compete in the test of the graded level of their horse or combination and the level immediately above. If, however, the competitor elects to compete at a higher level, the horse may not return to a lower level.
- d. Caller – Provision is made for competitors in Preliminary and Novice levels to have a caller in a competition if required. However, there is a 10 point penalty, which is deducted from the final score. Intermediate and Open competitors may only have a caller if they compete hors concours.

4. Upgrading

- a. A horse will receive one grading point on each occasion it achieves 60% or more at its graded level or the level above.

A horse will be upgraded in accordance with the following table:

- i) Preliminary to Novice – 4 grading points achieved in Preliminary or Novice
 - ii) Novice to Elementary – 4 grading points achieved in Novice or Elementary
 - iii) Elementary to Intermediate – 4 grading points achieved in Elementary or Intermediate
 - iv) Intermediate to Open – 4 grading points achieved in Intermediate or Open
 - iv) Advanced – horses consistently gaining over 60% in open tests (minimum of six times).
- b. A horse may only be downgraded if subsequently purchased/leased by an inexperienced driver. It can only be downgraded only on application to the State Dressage Panel.

Upgrading Preliminary to Novice (guide) – when 60% or over has been attained on four separate occasions either in a Preliminary test or at Novice level.

For example:

Preliminary Test A 61%
Preliminary Test B 63.2%
Novice Test A 53.0% (no grading point)
Novice Test A 60.5%
Preliminary Test A 63.8%

Therefore Pony/horse upgraded to Novice and will carry one grading point in Novice.

Intermediate to Open – 4 grading points

Open to Open Advanced – more than 60% on 6 occasions in Open.

5. Graded/Ungraded Competitions

Ungraded competitions should be held at the conclusion of the graded competition. Similarly, competitors wishing to compete hors concours may only do so with prior permission of the organisers.

6. State Championships

It is recommended that these guidelines be adopted and followed by all States so that there is a standardisation of the procedure throughout Australia. This will ensure that interstate competitors will compete under the same conditions. (See grading points)

Organisation

- a) Club wishing to host the State Dressage Championships must apply to the State Branch.
- b) The host club will be responsible for the conduct of the Championships in collaboration with the State Dressage Panel.
- c) The Dressage Panel will make available to the Club a current Grading list, as of the date of the Schedule being sent out.
- d) The organising Club will submit the names of all prospective and confirmed judges to the Panel, along with the Schedule.
- e) The tests to be driven at the Championships will be selected by the Dressage Panel, who will notify the host club, prior to circulating the schedule.

Conditions

- a) **Qualifying** – All horses should have competed in a minimum of two official competitions to qualify to enter the state championships.
- b) Horses may only compete at the championships in their graded level, as at the close of entries.
- c) All competitors will drive two tests of their graded level.

These being:

First- The test that has been selected by the Panel and used in the official competitions throughout the year.

Second - A test of the same level, selected by the Panel two months prior to the championships, but not used in any official or unofficial competitions during the current year (or used in the period immediately before the Championships).

The purpose of this is to see if the competitor can present their horse in a new test having prepared it on their own (or with the assistance from a coach), without the benefit of competing previously in this test.

- d) Singles and Multiples will have separate classes in each level.
- e) All levels will be offered at the State Championships with a champion at each level.
- f) The champion in each level is the competitor with the highest aggregate gained from the 2 tests driven.
- g) A freestyle competition may be offered at the State Championships with separate classes for Preliminary/Novice/Elementary and Intermediate /Open (as per Manual).

Officials

- a) **Judges:** It is necessary to have a minimum of two Advanced judges. Several novice judges may be used and rostered to judge on the side along with an advanced judge. In special circumstances a candidate judge (learner) may be used as a side judge or a ridden dressage judge who is familiar with carriage driving.
- b) **Pencillers:** Preferably one penciller should be allocated to a specific judge exclusively.
- c) **Stewards:** A steward is required for each arena.
- d) **Scorers:** Two scorers will be required to check all scores.

JUDGING

- a) The competitors should each be judged by different judges for each test.
e.g. Prelim AA is judged by Judge A & Judge B

Prelim No 1 is judged by Judge C & Judge D
This applies to all levels.

- b) All tests (including Preliminary & Novice) should have an Advanced judge at C.

TIMETABLE

The following are some suggestions that may help organisers with the timetable for running the Championship. Both the arrangements have been successfully used and found equal acceptance with organisers, competitors and judges. Much depends on the number of entries as to which method is used.

Arenas: Two arenas may be required dependent upon the number of entries received.

Timing: Each Preliminary & Novice test should be allocated 10 minutes per test. Each competitor drives 2 tests i.e. allow 20 minutes per entry. Each Elementary, Intermediate and Open test needs a 12 minute allowance. Organisers may schedule tests in a way that is convenient for the particular competition.

For Example:

If in the combination of Preliminary & Novice Levels there are a total of 10 entries, these will take a total of 3 hours 30 minutes to complete. (including 10 minutes for judges to change over). Similarly, if say there are 8 Intermediate & Open entries, these will take 4 hours 15 minutes to complete.

A Total of 8 hours running non-stop, and this is not allowing time for the Freestyle.

Result: Any greater number of entries will entail having two arenas -

- a) An 80m x 40m
- b) An 100m x 40m

If entry numbers are low enough to warrant only having one arena, a suggested format is as follows:

- . 1st Preliminary Test, then 1st novice Test
- Change judges.
- 2nd Preliminary Test, then 2nd Novice Test
- Freestyle
- Change Arena
- Same arrangement for Intermediate and Open

If two arenas are used it is also a good idea to adopt the same system for alternating the test and the judges.

Rest breaks for Judges and Pencillers; if the above format is used, then breaks are inbuilt. If however, two arenas are used, care must be taken to ensure that judges and pencillers are given sufficient time for breaks from judging.

AWARDS

- a) Rosettes should be awarded for 1st to 3rd place in each test (or more if numbers warrant it).
- b) All levels will be offered at the State Championships with a champion at each level.
- c) The champion in each level is the competitor with the highest aggregate gained from the two tests driven.
- d) Each level will have a champion and reserve champion rosette or sash.
- e) The freestyle will have a champion and reserve champion rosette or sash at both levels. All place-getters in the freestyle should receive a place ribbon /rosette.
- f) If sponsorship can be obtained, it is rewarding for each Champion to receive a Trophy.

7. Judges

- a. There is to be a minimum of two judges, one of whom, but preferably both, must be from the Judges list. In special circumstances a candidate judge (learner) may be used as a side judge or a ridden dressage judge who is familiar with carriage driving. To judge intermediate and open levels, one of the two judges must be an Advanced Judge.
- b. Judges require knowledge of the requirements, movements and specifications of each level, particularly at the preliminary level where it is so important to be realistic and encouraging to the inexperienced or new competitor.

8. Grooms are optional for singles however multiples must have a groom – pairs one groom, tandem one groom, four-in-hand two grooms.

9. Scoring

- a. All scores are calculated in positive points and converted to a percentage (see Annex 1E). Results from graded dressage competitions are to be sent to the State Driven Dressage Panel within 30 days and will be retained for grading purposes. The return form used for this is at Annex 1B.
- b. Grading lists will be circulated to all clubs at the commencement of each year. Subsequent upgrading will be sent to the competitor and all clubs.
- c. Grading points are carried forward to the subsequent year.

Annex 1A to Chapter 1

DRIVEN DRESSAGE GRADING SPECIFICATIONS

Level	Current Tests	Arena	Movements	Specific Requirements for each Level
Preliminary	ACDS AA Prelim No.1 Prelim No.2 Prelim No.3	80 x 40	Working trot - no lengthening. 40m circle. Halt through the walk 3-4 secs. Rein-back 2-3 steps. Free walk on long rein.	Horse should show basics of correct training: calmness, obedience, forward movement maintaining rhythm and relaxation through the back and neck and acceptance of the bit. It should track up in trot and show some lateral bend. Straightness improving. The walk should be free with neck stretching down and forward into the bit while the steps should be energetic and unconstrained.
Novice	ACDS BB ACDS CC Novice No.1 Novice No.2	80 x 40	Working trot. A few steps of lengthened stride. 20m circle. Halt through the walk 4-5 secs. Rein-back 3-4 steps. Free walk on long rein with a short distance of walk to contact. Serpentine at working trot.	In addition to the above Preliminary requirements, the horse should now show more impulsion and activity of the hindquarters, more engaged from behind. There should be increased lateral bend and flexion on corners and circles with improved suppleness and balance. The horse should work more consistently on the bit and straightness is becoming much more established. It is now able to show some lengthened strides. The outline should be more rounded and the forehead a little lighter.
Elementary	ACDS Elementary No 1 (2009) ACDS Elementary No 2 (2009)		More distance of lengthening 15m circle 20m ½ circles Halt (1-2 steps) 5-6 seconds Reinback 5-6 steps Serpentine 5 loops	Working trot Elementary essentially looks for consistent in acceptance of the bit, engagement of hindquarters and rounding of frame. Regularity, rhythm and tempo should be well established, along with both straightness and correctness of bend at all times. Accuracy of figures in the large arena should also be established.

Level	Current Tests	Arena	Movements	Specific Requirements for Each Level
Intermediate	Intermed No.2 Intermed No.3	100 x 40	Working trot. Lengthened trot across diagonal of moderate extension. Collected trot on curve or ½ circle. Deviation and loops. 20m circle. Halt through the walk (1-2 steps) 6-8 secs. Rein-back 4-6 steps. Serpentine. Reins in one hand on long side	While showing that the Novice training is established, the horse needs to have more consistent paces, straightness, suppleness, balance and acceptance of the bit. There should be more engagement of the hindquarters and the forehand lighter and higher. More lift and cadence throughout.
Open	ACDS Open No1 (2008) ACDS Open No.2 (2008)	100 x 40	. Working trot. Collected trot. Extended trot. Deviations and loops. Reins in one hand 20m circle and deviations. 15m circles. Halt 10 secs. Rein-back 3m.	As per Manual definitions. Show that the horse has established a greater degree of balance, suppleness and engagement of quarters while remaining lightly and consistently on the bit. The horse should be able to produce more impulsion and lift in the collected trot.

Annex 1B to Chapter 1
GRADING TEST SCORE SHEET

Club: _____ **Date:** _____ **Event:** _____ **Dressage Level:** _____ **Test:** _____

Judge at C _____ **Judge at E** _____ **Judge at B** _____

No.	Horse	Driver	Judge C	Judge E	Judge B	Total	%	Place
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6								
7								
8								

Annex 1C to Chapter 1
NOVICE - TEST NOVICE BB
(example only)

Judge: 1 John Smith

Judge: 2 Sue Jones

No.	Horse	Driver	Judge 1	Judge 2	Total	%	Place
1	Narcoola Parc A	Sandy	90	104	194	64.7	2
2	Narcoola Parc B	Chris	99	87	186	62	3
3	Karma park	Linda	99	91	190	63.3	H/C
4	Jencuer	Diana	74	71	145	48.3	
5	Dirtwater	Gillian	82	75	157	52.3	
6	Wendamar	Midge					scratched
7	S & B	Pauline	93	89	182	60.7	
8	Narcoola Parc C	Chris	94	87	181	60.3	
9	Narcoola Parc D	Sandy	94	112	206	68.7	1

Annex 1D to Chapter 1

DRIVEN DRESSAGE GRADING 2003 – Example Only

Horse	Driver	C/fwd qual Ex 2002	15/02/2003 A&HCDC	06/04/2003 M Dist.	31/05/2003 State CDE				
Preliminary									
Arnie	E Oliver								
Bridie	S Goodman	1							
Dirtwater Vision	G Woodstock			50.40%					
Dunolly Nobility	M Bojcun	1							
Gino	G Wicks		52.80%						
Glen Avon Stroatley	H Filleaer	1							
Glowbrook Pelaco	H Chapman	1							
Holmwood Chip	Carol Fawcett								
Jencuer Locket	D Jolly			52.10%					
KH Ambition	L Lycholit								
Keirfield Juliet	J Neilson		55.70%		59.66%				
Lord Jasper	C Payne								
Lymehill Louie	D Nicholas	1							
Lymehill Prince	Carlie Fawcett								
Lyn Jeavon Lady Blue	L Hunt		45.30%						
MV Gwen	B Thomas	3							
MV Gwilliam	D Wise	2							
MV Maestir	K Dean				60.33%				
Monteagle Masterpiece	M Pollard				58.99%				
NP Baldwin	S Elliott	1	74.60%	63.90%	70.33%				
NP Baldwin	J Pope	1	66.40%	64.30%	63.99%				
NP Moeson	C Gray			57.10%					
NP Nathan	M Steward	2		53.60%	61.33%				
Riccadona	S Suvaljko				67.67%				
Rocket/Courtney/Gino	C Wicks		68.50%		70.66%				
Sam & Bailey	P Johnson		72.80%	58.60%	63.33%				
S Eelamar jack	D McCosh	2							
Tiffany	C Hallett								
T Leprechaun	S Tighe	1			66.67%				
T Mr Mischief	S Tighe		52.19%						
T L Pippin	H Pow	1			58.99%				
Towerbank Timothy	D Dean				55.99%				

Annex 1E to Chapter 1

**SCORING DRESSAGE TESTS
TO OBTAIN A POSITIVE PERCENTAGE**

(not for use for CDE)

1. Add up the score for each test.
2. Add together the score from each judge.
3. Divide the total by the number of judges.
4. Deduct from this result any penalties given by the judge at C (e.g. error of course - 5 penalties). Note: there will not necessarily be any error of course.
5. Take the result from 4 above and divide by the total possible score and multiply by 100 to obtain a percentage.

Example:

Total points	120 from judge at C
Total points	115 from judge at B
Total	235
Divide by 2	117.5
Penalty	-5 for error of course
New Total	112.5
Possible score	150
Percentage calculation	$\frac{112.5}{150} \times 100 = 75\%$

CHAPTER TWO

CLARIFICATION OF

DRESSAGE

RULES FOR DRIVING

10th Edition

(effective 1 January 2009)

with

ACDS VARIATIONS

(effective 1 September 2011)

CHAPTER TWO

CLARIFICATION OF RULES FOR DRIVING (Dressage) AND AUSTRALIAN Variations

Applicable To Combined Driving Dressage Competition

Please use Rule Book to Expand on Articles mentioned in this Chapter

1. Object And General Principles

- a. The object of the dressage test is to judge the freedom, regularity of pace, harmony, impulsion, suppleness, lightness, ease of movement and correct bending of horses and ponies on the move (Article 929). These qualities are revealed by:
 - harmony, lightness and ease of movements;
 - lightness of the forehand and engagement of the hindquarters, originating in a lively impulsion; and
 - acceptance of the bridle, with submissiveness throughout and without any tenseness or resistance.
- b. The competitor will also be judged on their style, accuracy and general command of their horse(s) and on the presentation of the turnout (Article 929.1).
- c. Horses and ponies will be judged as single or multiple (2 or 4) and **not** as individual horses e.g. if one horse breaks pace in a multiple, it is judged as if the whole turnout (Article 933.3) has broken pace. The definition of paces must apply to all horses.
- d. Accuracy of figure shapes is very important. Circles and half circles which require crossing X or the centre line should be driven in such a manner that the centre line is between the wheels of the carriage, i.e. either in line with the pole or with the centre of the shafts in the case of a single or tandem. At changes of direction, the horse(s) should adjust to the curvature of the line they follow – this is called the bend or flexion. For minimal correctness, the horse(s) must look in the direction of travel. The horse(s) must not drop its inside shoulder and fall into the circle, with its head turned out.
- e. Sponsors' logos are allowed on the turnout (Article 913.2).
- f. Any driver or groom showing cruelty shall be penalised by disqualification by the Ground Jury (Article 927).
- g. Practice Zones. It is recommended that a practice arena (minimum 80m x 40m) is made available or, at the very least, centre line marking (road marking paint, lime, sand etc). More than one competitor can practice within an arena at the same time, at the discretion of the organising committee.

- h. Judges must be given a list of competitor numbers and starting times. Competitors must present for judging at the allocated time and within 90 seconds of the bell or may be eliminated. The judge at C will record if a competitor is late, for possible penalty (Article 932.1).

2. Dressage Marshalling Steward

- a. It is recommended that a Dressage Marshalling Steward (DMS) is appointed. Competitors will present to the DMS prior to commencing their dressage test. The judge at C will signal the DMS when the judges are ready for a competitor to enter the arena and commence a test. Where presentation is judged on the move, it is preferable that the competitor does not present to the judge at C.
- b. The role of the DMS is:
 - (1) ensure the competitor recognises the sound of the judge's bell, especially if several dressage arenas are close together;
 - (2) ensure the competitor recognises the judge's signal for entry (flashing headlights, bell, etc);
 - (3) opening and closing the entry gate (if fitted);
 - (4) adequately maintaining centre line markings (if necessary);
 - (5) ensure spectators and photographers are at least 5m from the arena border and do not interrupt the judges.
 - (6) if there is a lameness problem, follow instructions from the judge at C;
 - (7) rectify arena damage or distractions, e.g. letters, pot plants or arena railing blown over, dogs or flying rubbish;
 - (8) to be aware that if presentation judging at the halt is delayed, inform judge at C and if possible also the announcer so that subsequent competitors may be advised of adjusted times;

3. Presentation

- a. Two formats of presentation are available Article 929.2:
 - (1) **Presentation at the halt** usually involves only Novice classes, but may also involve Open classes at some levels. It is judged at the halt by one or more presentation judges in a suitable area. The judge allocates a maximum of 50 points. The totals are divided by five. The resultant points are deducted from 10, whereupon they become penalty points. Decimal points are to be retained. It could assist four-in-hand competitors if they are judged 45-60 minutes prior to the allocated time of dressage tests and all other competitors 30 minutes prior to allow for an adequate warm-up if necessary because the time taken to judge teams can be extensive

- (2) **Presentation On The Move** can involve Singles and Multiples classes. It is to be judged during the dressage test by all test judges (Article 935.6).

4. Driver And Groom

- a. Drivers must be members of a club affiliated with the ACDS (Article 904.2).
- b. The dress of drivers and grooms must conform to the style of the carriage and harness used. In dressage, the driver must wear a driving apron over the jacket (not a knee rug), hat and gloves and carry a whip in hand. Not carrying a whip is 10 penalties. If any of the other three items is not worn by the driver, a maximum of 5 penalties. Grooms must wear hats and gloves. Only the judge at C may award penalty points.
- c. The driver may use any method or style of driving. In some tests, one-handed rein control is specified for certain movements and is expected during the salute. At all other times, either one or two-handed rein control is permitted.
- d. The test must be driven from memory (Article 932.2). At Level 4, organisers may permit novice competitors to have tests called by their groom or an outside caller that subsequently incurs 10 penalty points. The caller may be at E or B or on the carriage, however it must be stressed the caller may only read the movements as they appear on the test.
- e. The driver should sit well balanced, upright with knees and feet together and preferably sit high enough to avoid rein contact with the horse's hindquarters. All movements should be obtained without apparent effort.
- f. The driver may use their voice and whip as a driving aid at any time. Only the driver may use the reins, whip or brake. Failure to comply incurs elimination for outside assistance (Article 926.4.2).
- g. Outside assistance is forbidden under penalty of elimination. Doubtful decisions are clarified by the Ground Jury (Article 926.4.1). However, if an accident is imminent or has occurred and the driver calls for assistance, or is incapable, or is too pre-occupied to do so, than outside assistance may be provided without penalty (Article 926.3).
- h. The whip must be of suitable length to reach all horses (Article 917.3). The lash is loose for singles and should reach the shoulder of the horse. When not in use, the whip should be carried at a 45° angle to the vertical (or less) either in the left or right hand. The whip may be used as an aid at anytime, including one-handed circles, deviations, etc.
- i. **Four-in-hands** must carry the driver and two grooms. No passengers are to be carried (Article 917.2.8). Grooms must sit behind the driver. Horse four-in-hand drivers must be at least 18 years old (Article 913), and pony four-in-hand drivers must be 16 years.
- j. **Pairs and tandems** must carry the driver and one groom. No passengers are to be carried. Groom for pairs must sit behind the driver. Grooms for tandem may sit beside (two wheeled vehicle) or behind the driver (four wheeled vehicle) (Article 918.1.1).

- k. **Horse pair and tandem drivers** must be at least 18 years old (Article 913), pony pair and tandem drivers at least 16 years old (Article 913).
- l. **Single Drivers** must be at least 12 years of age (Article 913). All competitors under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a competent adult ACDS member (Article 913).
- m. **Singles.** Grooms must be carried by singles in all classes, in either two or four-wheeled vehicle. Grooms are compulsory for singles except in the 91cm-under 121cm class (Article 917.2.9).
- n. If a groom is carried, they may sit beside the driver in a two-wheeler or behind in a four-wheeler. If the two-wheeler has a back step, the step may remain in place although not used. The groom may sit beside (two wheeled vehicle) or behind the driver of singles (four wheeled vehicle (Article 918).
- o. Single ponies in the 91cm-under 121cm class do not need to carry a groom (Article 917).
- p. All grooms on any vehicle during a competition, must be at least 10 years old for singles or 14 years old for multiples (Article 913).
- q. Grooms must remain seated in their proper place between entering and leaving the arena and grooms must not speak, indicate direction, handle the reins or whip. However a groom who is an ACDS member may handle the reins and brake without penalty provided the vehicle remains stationary (Article 917.2.4; 926.2.1). Exception: Article 926.3.5

5. Vehicles – Article 918

- a. Vehicles for four-in-hands and pairs must be four-wheeled. In all classes, if the vehicles has no brakes, breeching is compulsory. Failure to comply entails 10 penalties.
- b. Vehicles for singles and tandems may be two or four-wheeled. For Level 1 and 2 events, only solid rubber or iron tyres are permitted. For Level 3 and 4 events, pneumatic tyres may be used in a class of their own. Viceroys are not permitted in CDEs (or graded dressage).
- c. Vehicles must be clean and sound.
- d. In Competition A, lamps need only be carried if the vehicle is fitted for them. Reflectors are compulsory in Competitions A and C. Lamps are optional in Competition C even if lamp holders are fitted.
- e. No dressage vehicle weights are specified, however vehicle widths are. Minimum vehicle widths are obligatory.
- f. No person may be tied to the vehicle in any way during the competitions. A competitor may be secured by rope, webbing or belt provided one end is held by a groom and not wrapped or fastened to the vehicle in any way. Failure to comply will incur elimination (Article 917.2.5).

6. Harness – Article 919

- a. Harness must be safe, clean and in good condition. It should be uniform in appearance (leather or synthetic) and of an appropriate style. Horses must be correctly harnessed.
- b. Different bits (not identical) or not necessarily recognised driving bits with multiples are acceptable. Misuse or cruelty in the use of a bit may incur disqualification. Bitless bridles are not permitted. Failure to comply will incur elimination (Article 919.11). It is forbidden to tie down the tongue of a horse. Failure to comply will incur elimination.
- c. For four-in-hands and pairs, only the connecting straps between collars or breast collars are allowed. The leaders may not be connected to each other in any manner whatsoever, other than by the connecting reins. Auxiliary reins, including any type of check reins or straps, are not allowed. These include bearing reins, overhead (trotting) checks, running and standing martingales, side reins and running reins. Failure to comply will incur elimination.
- d. All rings, terrets and/or other devices on a harness causing extreme leverage effect on the reins are forbidden. Drivers contravening this rule incur elimination (Article 919.6, 919.11).
- e. Permitted types of nosebands are cavesson, dropped, cross-over type (also known as grackle or Mexican noseband) and flash type (also known as Hanoverian). Use of chains or equivalent under nosebands or hayband nosebands are to be construed as cruelty, in the opinion of the Ground Jury, and penalised by disqualification from the event (Article 927.3). Also Article 901.7.
- f. Tails may not be tied or attached to any part of the harness or vehicles, with the exception of a recognised tail guard. No other ancillary device which restricts the free movement of the horse's tail is permitted.
- g. Bandages and brushing boots are not permitted. Failure to comply incurs 10 penalties (Article 919.2.1). Upon leaving the arena, the bandages or brushing boots must be removed and the horse(s) inspected by a vet or accredited steward who will report to the President of the Ground Jury. The inspection is to ascertain whether they are masking an injury etc. (Article 919.2.2)
- h. In case of broken or disconnected equipment, or if the horse steps over a trace, pole or shaft, the judge at C will ring the bell. The driver must stop and put a groom down (or in the case of the 91cm under 121cm class, call a groom in) to effect a repair. Penalties will be awarded as per rules (Article 936.4).

7. Horses And Ponies

- a. Horses and ponies must be at least four years of age for all events (Article 914.1). Failure to comply entails elimination.

- b. Any animal of more than 148cm measured without shoes, and more than 149cm measured with shoes, is classified as a horse. Any animal 148cm without shoes or 149cm with shoes and below may only take part in classes for ponies.
- c. The class in which a multiple is entered will be determined by the height of the largest animal. (Article 914.2).
- d. Horses may be measured at the discretion of the organising committee.
- e. Horses may be shod with any type of conventional shoe (Article 920). It is not compulsory for horses to be shod.

8. The Arena

- a. The arena for Open class competitors at all level of events should be 100m x 40m. The arena for Novice competitors at all level of events may be 80m x 40m or 100m x 40m (Article 930).
- b. In an indoor school, the edge of the dressage arena may need to be at least 2m from a wall where a judge is working from, to provide the judges with suitable visibility of the competitor. Special or modified existing tests may be required, due to arena size, to allow the judge on the long side clear visibility of the test being performed.
- c. The arena should be level and separated from the public (including photographers and video operators) by a recommended distance of 5m – 10m (Article 930.1.3). Judges should be 2-3m from the arena boundary and seated as high as possible, positions as per Article 933.1.
- d. The arena may have a low, continuous or partially, surround (e.g. white timber or plastic). A gap of about 2m each side of the centre line should be left at A to form an entrance, to be closed by the DMS while a test is in progress. The A marker must be placed far enough back from the arena to allow horses to enter on a straight track. It is helpful to place a lined or similar marker for A on the arena boundary.
- e. The letters outside the arena may be placed about 50cm from the arena boundary and be clearly marked. Supports must not involve star pickets or an equivalent. Letters may be placed on the edge of the arena if there is no continuous or partial fence.
- f. The arena must be measured and marked per the Rules, Annex 4A; Annex 5 for small arena. Refer also to Annex A & B Chapter 2 of this Manual.
- g. The centre line at X must be marked and the two points D and G should be marked. It is helpful to also mark I and L for some tests. Use sawdust, lime, flour, road marking paint, sand or an equivalent. Renew this, if necessary, after every six competitors.
- h. It is extremely difficult to know exactly where A should be from the short side as the letter is usually set many metres back from the arena boundary, to give drivers a reasonable opportunity to drive a straight entry. Once A is even slightly missed, the driver is off-line up the centre, this being intensified if there is no indication of approaching centre markers.

Furthermore, the judge at C, responsible for noting errors of course, may find it difficult to see if competitors change pace, or halt, or change direction at designated central letters, if those central letters are not marked. DMS may position a marker at A after closing the entry gate.

- i. Due to the size of the dressage arena, it is often only possible to place arenas close together (at least 5m apart) but they should *never* have a common boundary. Competitors should be informed of what their bell note (sound) will be, e.g. foghorn, car horn, whistle, bell, etc. The problem of entry bells with similar sounds can be overcome with the judge at C waving a hand or flashing car headlights, but errors of course can cause more of a difficulty if bell notes are similar in arenas that are close together.

9. Definition Of Movements – Article 934

- a. **The salute - a recommendation.** A gentleman driver should take the reins and whip in one hand and raise his hat with his other hand (no need to bow his head). With reins in either hand, the lady driver should raise her whip to a horizontal position, so that her elbow is tipped upward, and may bow her head. Grooms must not salute. It is courteous for the driver to acknowledge other judges while exiting. The judge at C shall acknowledge all salutes (Gen Regs127.3).
- b. **Halt.** At the halt the horse must stand square and straight with the weight evenly distributed between all four legs. The horse must remain attentive, motionless and straight, ready to move off at the slightest indication from the driver.
- c. **The Walk.** A regular unconstrained walk of moderate length. The horse, remaining in a light steady contact with the bit walks energetically, but calmly with even and determined steps with the hind feet touching the ground in front of the footprints of the forefeet. The walk is a marching pace in which the footfalls of the horse's feet follow one another in four-time, well marked and maintained in all work at the walk. A free, regular and unconstrained walk of moderate extension is required. Ambling and/or pacing, when both legs on the same side (lateral pairs) move in unison, or approximate unison must be heavily faulted; it is neither a true walk nor trot.
- d. **Trot.** The trot is a two-time pace on alternate diagonal legs, separated by a moment of suspension. The transition from walk to trot should be moved into without hesitation i.e. 2-3 walk paces is acceptable at lower levels. The quality of the trot is judged by the general impression, the regularity and elasticity of the steps, originating from a supple back and well engaged hindquarters, and by the ability to maintain the same rhythm and natural balance, even after a transition from one trot to another.
 - (1) The recognised trots are working, collected and extended. Novice competitors performing in Novice tests will not be expected to display the more advanced outline and paces, but certainly will not be penalised if they do. They will not be expected to go deeply into corners and novice drivers need not have heads held higher. An advanced well-schooled horse is expected to have more engagement of hindquarters, hold themselves in an advanced frame and be driven more deeply into corners.

- (2) Driven horses may properly display knee action at the trot that would be undesirable in horses performing ridden dressage tests. This is entirely acceptable provided that the horse's hocks are also well flexed to balance the flexion of its knees and the resultant action is progressive so as to result in strides which cover as much ground as those of horses which do not bend their knees so noticeably.
- (3) **Working Trot.** This is a pace between the extended and collected trot and more round than the extended trot. A forward, active trot with the horse on the bit, carrying himself in balance and rhythm with even, elastic steps and good hock action. The steps of the hind feet must at least be touching the ground in the footprints of the forefeet. The steps should be as even as possible. Some slight overstepping may be exhibited depending on horse conformation. The degree of energy and impulsion displayed at the working trot clearly denotes the degree of suppleness and balance of the horse.
- (4) **Lengthened Trot.** The horse is required to cover more ground with longer strides while maintaining the same rhythm – the phase of suspension will be longer and the feet touch the ground for less amount of time. Just going faster is a severe fault. In order to lengthen correctly, the frame has to lengthen and lower (compared to working trot) and use his hind legs with more energy. At the same time his front end can elevate to allow more freedom and reach of the front legs, which is essential for correct lengthening. Unless the horse can do this, the front end will remain heavy and when asked for increased strides, the front legs can't move sufficiently and a quickness of rhythm is the result. The lengthened trot is hard on the horse's hind leg joints and should not be practiced too frequently. It is a good exercise when used with frequent transitions to working trot.
- (5) **Collected Trot.** The horse remains on the bit and moves energetically forward with a greater degree of engagement, leading to an increased flexion of the hocks and fetlock joints and a lightening of the shoulders, thus allowing for more mobility and elevation of the steps. The neck will be raised and more arched, with the poll the highest part, the nose should not be over-bent or the neck restricted. The horse's steps are shorter than the working trot but they are lighter and may be more elevated and mobile. A collected trot is never achieved by a horse pulling hard on the bit. He is then inevitably too heavy on the forehand. A collected trot is not a slow trot involving a slowed rhythm. The shortened higher stride of the collected trot must have the same speed of rhythm (tempo) as the working trot.
Only moderate collection is to be expected from the driving horse due to the harness and vehicle weight.
- (6) **Extended Trot.** The horse lengthens his stride to cover as much ground as possible as a result of greater impulsion from the hindquarters. The driver allows the horse, remaining "on the bit" without leaning on it, to lengthen its frame to gain ground, with the nose slightly in front of the vertical. The hind feet must clearly over-track the prints made by the forefeet.
The horse must remain in balance while maintaining the same rhythm with steps of equal size. Going faster is not asked for, and is a severe fault. He lengthens his stride. A light contact is desirable. The neck is extended and as a result of greater impulsion from the hindquarters, the horse uses his shoulders, covering more ground at each step without action becoming higher. Hind legs must be as strongly engaged as the

forelegs. If the horse runs, he must be slowed down and the rhythm corrected, however horses must show some engagement of hindquarters otherwise they will be penalised for running.

- (7) **Working Canter.** A forward, active pace with regular steps of three time beat. The horse, showing good balance, remains on the bit without leaning on the hand, and goes forward with light cadenced steps and good hock action. A canter to the right, for instance, will have the footfalls follow one another in the following sequence: left hind, left diagonal (simultaneously left fore and right hind), right fore, followed by a moment of suspension with all four feet off the ground before the next stride begins. The quality of the canter is judged by the general impression, and the regularity and lightness of the three-beat pace. The horse must be on the bit and well engaged in the hindquarters with good hock action, and must have the ability to maintain his rhythm and natural balance throughout the movement and the transitions. The horse must remain straight on straight lines and correctly bent on curved lines.
- e. **Rein-back.** The horse must walk backwards in a straight line, with the legs being lifted and set down in diagonal pairs. The horse must remain on the bit, straight and not evade or resist the contact. Transition to the next movement must be immediate and smooth. The legs do not move in the sequence of the walk, but in that of the trot. The rein-back footfall sequence is correct if the horse lifts his diagonal feet off the ground at the same time and puts them down again in unison. Anticipation of the movement, resistance to or evasion of the driver, deviation of the hindquarters from the straight line, spreading or inactive hind legs and dragging forefeet are faulted. The reason for vehicle crookedness can be determined from the halt itself, vehicle construction, uneven ground or driver error. Following the rein-back, the horse may pause or momentarily halt or move straight forward into the required pace and may trot through the walk.
- f. **Transitions.** Changes of pace must always be made smoothly and promptly and not abruptly with the horse remaining in balance and on the bit. A transition must be completed as the nose of the horse arrives at the prescribed marker. The cadence (expression of light exuberance, an airy lightness of footfall) of a pace should be maintained up to the moment when the pace is changed or the horse halts. The horse remains light in hand, calm and maintained in a correct position. *Two to three paces may be allowed to establish a new pace fully, e.g. walking through the trot or walking through the halt.* The driver should aim to reach the prescribed marker slightly before the marker to place himself on the track. The horse should be balanced for at least one stride before the marker and therefore the driver executes the transition prior to reaching the marker. One-handed driving, where specified in a test, must commence by the time the heads of the leaders (or single horse) are at the stated letter and continue until the heads of the leaders are at the letter indicating reins at will.
Note: In one of the international tests (8a), the transition to circle takes place when the driver reaches the marker (four-in-hand/tandem).
- g. **Terminology** – The following must be considered when judging driven dressage movements:
- (1) Obedience and lightness – willing response to aids without resistance and correctness of bend.

- (2) Regularity – the regularity, evenness and rhythm with which the horse puts his feet to the ground.
- (3) Contact – the tension in the reins between the driver's hands and the horse. It should be light and flexible and maintained at all times.
- (4) Impulsion – the willingness of the horse to go forward energetically at all times and to respond quickly and evenly to changes of pace. The horse must remain in balance while maintaining the same rhythm with steps of equal size within the pace (see also impulsion in general impression).
- (5) Straightness – carrying the head, neck and body in a straight line with the weight evenly divided between the legs, travelling on one track whether on a straight line or curved.
- (6) Collection – roundness and engagement with good hock action, elevated poll allowing the shoulders to move with ease. The horse's energy contained in a more deliberate pace than the working trot. The haunches are more compressed, the croup is lowered and the forequarter elevated to the same degree. The stride is shorter but more powerful than the working trot and the front legs will move from the shoulder with greater agility resulting in lightness and greater mobility throughout. The neck should be more arched. The shortening of the frame is not and never should be a result of pulling back but rather of asking and allowing the horse to move forward into the driver's hand.
- (7) Accuracy – accuracy of turns, circles, serpentines, along side rails, deviations.
- (8) A serpentine with 5 loops, each having a diameter of 20m, is driven on a 100m x 40m arena. A serpentine with three loops, each having a diameter of 26m, is driven on a 80m x 40m arena. [3m after M/F/K/H].

10. General Impression – Article 935

- a. Principle - there are five boxes at the end of the Judges Score Sheets for marks on General Impression. The following points should be taken into account when judging:
 - Accuracy
 - Lateral Bend
 - Paces
 - Longitudinal Bend
 - Regularity
 - Obedience and Lightness
 - Freedom
 - Impulsion
 - Straightness
 - Transitions
- b. Paces - "Regularity and freedom (if four-in-hand, pair or tandem, maintenance of pace by all horses/ponies)". The quality of paces in each movement is marked under the appropriate movement. The mark for the general impression should reflect paces and transitions during the whole test..

Judges should take into consideration – paces, regularity, freedom, straightness, even stride, longitudinal bend.

- c. Impulsion - "Moving forward, engagement of the hind quarters (if four-in-hand, pair or tandem, all horses/ponies working)". The level of impulsion may vary between movements, but the mark for impulsion should reflect the performance of the horses/ponies throughout the test.

Judges should take into consideration – impulsion, rhythm of paces, longitudinal balance.

- d. Obedience and Lightness - "Response to aids, willing and without resistance. Correctness of bend. Suppleness".

Judges should take into consideration – obedience, lightness, transitions, calmness.

- e. Driver - "Use of aids, handling of reins and whip, position on the box, accuracy of figures". The mark should reflect the performance of the horses/ponies throughout the test.

Judges should take into consideration – accuracy, driving straight, precision, achievement and being in harmony with the horse. Maintenance of pace.

- f. Presentation on the Move - "Appearance of the driver and grooms, cleanliness, fitness, matching and condition of horses/ponies, vehicle and harness" Bandages and brushing boots are not permitted under any circumstances in Competition A. Failure to comply incurs 10 penalties. If the competitor, groom(s), vehicle or harness do not comply with these Rules, or equipment or clothing is missing, the President of the Ground Jury will award penalty points.

All the judges are to judge presentation on the move. First impressions are important, however judges must check to see if competitors have hat, gloves, whip, apron, reflectors and lamps, if the vehicle is fitted for them. Grooms must wear gloves. As competitors pass judges, it can be observed if the turnout is clean and appropriate. The fit of the harness can be observed during the tests.

11. Judging And Scoring – Article 933

- a. All judges must be members of the ACDS. Open single and multiple tests should be judged by ACDS accredited advanced judges. Novice single tests may be judged by ACDS accredited advanced or novice judges. It is helpful for novice judges to judge with an advanced judge and this is also of benefit to competitors. However should novice multiples classes be available, they may be judged by novice judges.

- b. The judges will allocate their marks individually and there will be no consultation among judges once the class has commenced.

- c. When there are two judges, they must sit at C and B or E, in a high-seated vehicle or platform. When there are three judges, they must be at C, B and E. When there are five judges, they must be at C, R, S, V and P. Judges should inspect the arena and surrounding area to ensure the driver can safely enter and exit and that all is correct. Training days or their equivalent may use only one judge.

- d. Judges should avoid speaking to spectators or visiting/casual enquirers during or between classes.

- e. Judges must arrive early to ensure their pencillers know exactly what is expected of them, when they have not brought their own pencillers. Judges may be asked to allow candidate judges to observe how they judge.
- f. Dressage tests are not timed.
- g. Competitors should be given an allocated starting time and organisers are advised to allow two or three minutes between tests. Unless the arena is running behind time, the Head Judge should ring the bell at the allotted time and if the competitor does not commence the test within 90 seconds, the competitor may be eliminated, at the discretion of the Head Judge. The same applies to a competitor who enters the arena before the starting signal has been given.
- h. Scoring commences as the competitor enters the arena and ends on completion of the second salute, whereafter the competitor should go forward at working trot towards C, turn left or right, towards either E or B or through X, then exits at A.
- i. In case of very marked lameness, only the President of the Ground Jury or the judge at C may ring the bell and inform the competitor that the horse is disqualified and the competitor is eliminated. Alternatively, the judge at C can allow the driver to complete the test and then request the driver report to the attending vet, if in attendance, for inspection in harness. The penalty is possible elimination.
- j. **Errors Of Course and Error of Test.** The Head Judge may use their discretion whether to judge as an error of course or error of test. For the benefit of Australian drivers, it is recommended that incorrect trots be judged as error of test. There may be disputed errors of course and errors of test and inaccuracies, however judges will do their best and their decision is final.

Error of Test – There is no separate penalty for an error of test. It is merely marked down.

- (1) It is an error of test if a competitor performs the incorrect trot in a movement, provided the driver attempts the movement. Marked down by all judges.
- (2) The attempt to perform a movement or part of a movement, such as a rein-back or one-handed rein control may be minimal, but there must be at least one attempt. Marked down by all judges.
- (3) An error of test is a mistake e.g. driving a wrong size circle, an early or late transition, or a halt at X instead of G. Marked down by all judges.

Error of Course – An error of course incurs penalties recorded by the Head Judge only. The side judges note error of course but do not award penalties.

- (1) It is an error of course if the driver makes no attempt to perform a movement or part of a movement, for example:
 - when the horse trots in a walk movement or walks in a trot movement; or
 - the driver is in the incorrect place in the arena which prevents progression to the next movement.
- (2) It is an error of course if the driver deviates markedly from the proper track, e.g. drives the incorrect number of serpentine loops, forgets to drive a circle of any size

- (an incorrect size of circle, unless grossly incorrect, is not an error of course) or drives an unspecified circle, or omits a movement e.g. deviation.
- (3) It is an error of course when a competitor does not, within a short distance (as defined the discretion of the judge at C) of the required letter, make the specified change of direction (late transition).
 - (4) It is an error of course if the halt and commencement of the walk or trot are not performed within a short distance of the correct letter, either intentionally or because of driver memory error (although a late transition quickly corrected may not be an error of course). However, if the competitor is just a little late or early with a transition, it should be marked as inaccurate.
 - (5) The bell **must** be rung for errors of course, (1) and (2), and the competitor must continue the test from the **beginning** of the movement where the error of course was made (Article 936.3). If an error of course occurs in movement 1, the competitor must **not** leave the arena, but recommence at the centre line at A, inside the arena.
 - (6) If the judge hesitates when there has been an error of course and does not ring the bell, by at least the end of the following movement, it cannot be recorded as an error of course. The head judge must mark it as an inaccuracy.
 - (7) If the judge at C has not noted an error at all, the competitor has the benefit of the doubt. It cannot be recorded in official scores even if witnessed by other judges or spectators or recorded by camera.
 - (8) To record an error of course, the bell must be rung.
 - (9) Competitors should, when the bell is rung for an error of course, drive up to the judge at C and ask or wait for clarification, even if the competitor appreciates where they have gone wrong. The competitor will then be certain at which point the judge wishes the test to be resumed and the judge will have time to return to their judging position at C.
 - (10) If the driver, upon hearing the bell, realises the mistake immediately and indicates that he is able to rectify the mistake correctly, the judge will let them continue. If the competitor is incorrect, the judge must ring the bell again the driver will be awarded a second error of course.
 - (11) Should the judge ring the bell when it should not have been, they should apologise to the competitor and will not penalise as an error of course.
 - (12) There may be disputed errors of test and errors of course and inaccuracies, however judges will do their best and their decision is final.
- k. The judge at C must record a concise explanation of where the error of course occurred, in case of protests. The side judges should do the same, but not award a penalty.
- l. For an error of course, if a groom dismounts for any reason, (or a groom enters the arena to assist the driver), penalties will be distributed as follows (Article 937.1.7):
- first incident - 5 penalties
 - second incident - 10 penalties
 - third incident - elimination
- (1) If no gloves, apron or hat are worn, a maximum of 5 penalty points are awarded (Article 937.1.4). If whip is not carried is put down or dropped, 10 penalty points are awarded (Article 937.1.2/ 937.1.3) There is no penalty if driver's hat is blown off. If the vehicle is fitted with lamp holders and no lamps are carried – 5 penalty points. Reflectors are compulsory (Art 918.2).
See Article 937 for full list of penalties.

- (2) If a vehicle is overturned, the penalty is elimination (Article 937.1.10).
- m. If the whole horse/vehicle turnout leaves the dressage arena during the test, the bell is rung and the penalty is elimination. If part of the turnout leaves the arena, mark down for inaccuracy.
- n. Zero or positive points up to ten will be awarded for each numbered movement and for each of the four headings under General Impression (Paces, Obedience and Lightness, Impulsion and Driver - and Presentation on the Move, where included), as follows (Article 935 and 936.1):
- 10 - excellent (remarkably good)
 - 9 - very good
 - 8 - good
 - 7 - fairly good
 - 6 - satisfactory (all that is required)
 - 5 - sufficient (adequate)
 - 4 - insufficient
 - 3 - fairly bad
 - 2 - bad
 - 1 - very bad
 - 0 - not executed
- (1) The total positive points awarded by each judge will be added together and divided by the number of judges. The difference between the maximum points possible and those actually obtained by the competitor are penalty points. Any error of course or incomplete presentation (awarded by the judge at C only) are added to these penalty points, to arrive at the total penalty point score for the competitor.
- (2) The total number of movements for some tests varies, hence scores could be adjusted i.e. the co-efficient.
- o. Judges must provide comments, as well as the score points, for scores of 6 or less and are advised to provide comments for all movements, including General Impression. Such comments are observations, what you see in front of you, that you note down. Competitor scores will be totalled by the scorer and not the judges/pencillers.
- p. The following may not serve as judges at an event (FEI Gen Regs 154.6):
- (1) the owner, or close relative of the owner, of a horse taking part in a class they are to judge
 - (2) a competitor, or close relative, taking part in the class they are to judge
 - (3) the regular trainer of the competitor or horse they are to judge (regular is defined as training within a month of the event)
 - (4) a consultant, practical coach, trainer or instructor of a competitor or horse cannot serve as a judge within 30 days of the last tutorial in either an individual or group lesson, excluding casual conversations (Article 906.4.3.2). Casual conversations are

permitted, this implying informal conversations, without the horse being ridden or driven.

- q. Should no driven dressage judges be available for your event, contact the State panel Chairman or the National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator.

12. Further Definitions Of Some Basic Dressage Terms

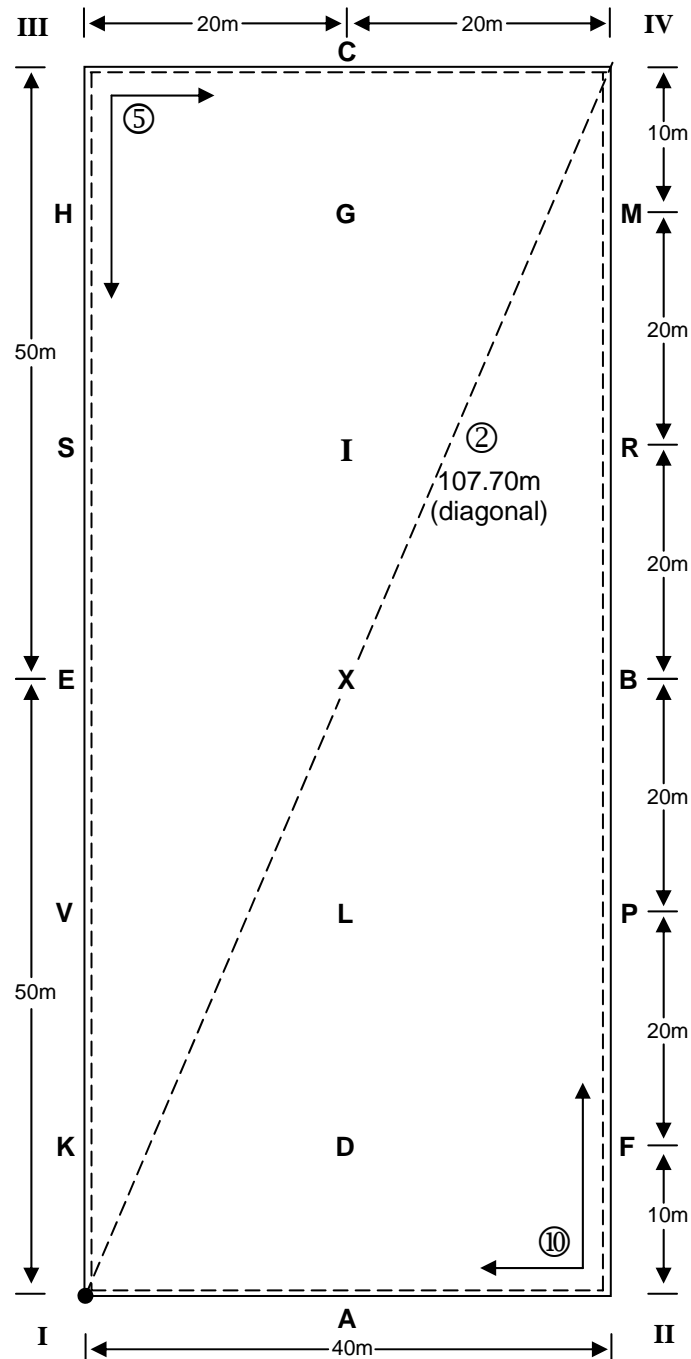
- a. There are many dressage books and articles, both ridden and driven dressage, with various definitions and interpretations of the same terms. Do not be dismayed. Study, observe, ask questions, compete, gain experience and instruction and read further.
- b. Judges must note that the column “to be judged” (or “judging directives”) does not cover all concepts to be considered and judged during a test.
- c. As singles and multiples may be driven, certain concepts in driven dressage may vary eg the contact with the bit concept can be somewhat different when comparing a single and a four-in-hand, although all horses should be on the bit.
- d. Medium trot is a term not used in driven dressage, but it should be understood. The ridden dressage term 'medium trot' is a pace between working and extended trots and is beyond lengthened trot requirements. It is more round than the extended trot. The horse goes forward with free and moderately extended steps and impulsion. The horse is on the bit and carries his head a little more in front of the vertical than in collected and working trot and lowers his head and neck slightly. Balance and rhythm of the collected and working trots are maintained. In the extended trot the steps should be longer. It is possible that driven dressage horses usually perform a medium trot rather than an extended trot. This is acceptable.
- e. Driven dressage judges and drivers can learn from ridden dressage judges, but not be swamped by them. As is often said about working with horses, “The more you know, the more you realise how little you know”. Both ridden and driven dressage disciplines have much to offer each other and should always listen intently to one another.
- f. **Calm.** The horse is mentally relaxed yet alert, keen and attentive, not dull or lazy.
- g. **Supple.** The horse is physically relaxed, with flexibility, both longitudinally and laterally.
- h. **Contact With The Bit or On The Bit.** The horse is going freely forward, calm and attentive with a steady head and light, even contact on the bit. The horse accepts the bit without resistance and works in an outline consistent with his stage of training i.e. novice or open frame. He is up to the bit and not leaning on it i.e. pulling the vehicle on the reins.
- i. When the horse is **above the bit** he is working with his head held high and the nose is too far in front of the vertical. His back will also tend to hollow. The horse is **behind the bit** when he is carrying his head too low i.e. poll not highest point, and his nose is behind the vertical.

- j. **Impulsion.** Impulsion is shown when energy from the hindquarters is received into and contained by the hands of the driver, who then controls and directs it by means of the reins and voice. The horse desires to go forward with controlled energy and a supple back, engaged hocks and steps that show elasticity. He shows a positive willingness and real effort to get on with the job obediently and responsively. Impulsion is not speed and is not a horse trying to tear along, pulling too hard and thus excessively on the forehand. Rhythm and tempo must be maintained.
- k. **Balance.** Balance is the horse's ability to control his own centre of gravity and therefore maximise the ease and efficiency of his movement. While a horse has natural balance when moving freely in the paddock, he must find a new balance with more weight on his haunches when pushing a vehicle. He will then move forward with more purpose and freedom.
- l. **Resistance.** Resistance is a reaction against the application of pressure on the bit and can also be an unwillingness to go forward up to the bit or to turn. Disobedience is a more deliberate resistance. An unwillingness to respond to the given aids.
- m. **The Half-Halt.** The half-halt is a hardly visible action, achieved by reins, whip, and voice. It is the application of slight forward driving aids followed by a momentary gentle restraining through the reins. The half-halt is used to increase the attention and balance of the horse and to increase the activity of the hindquarters, generate impulsion and lighten the forehand. It produces an increased activity of the hind legs without a speed increase. Through the application of the half-halt, there should be no loss of calmness, regularity or impulsion. There is no need for constant half-halts to adjust the horse's balance. It is the horse's job, not yours, to hold himself. The half-halt is likened to a subtle momentary check and prepares for a corner or a turn.
- n. **Rhythm.** Each pace has its own rhythm. There must be the correct order or sequence of footfall. The walk is a four beat movement, the trot two beat, and the canter three beat. It is important for correct rhythm to be maintained in all paces. **Tempo** is the speed of the rhythm or the time it takes for the sequence of footfalls to occur. In variations of pace (e.g. from working to collected trot), the tempo should remain the same with only the length of stride altering.
- o. **Regularity.** Regularity is the consistent maintenance of the rhythm of the pace e.g. at the trot the two hoof beats should be heard with the legs moving in alternative diagonal pairs with a regular unchanging tempo.
- p. **Straightness And Bend (Lateral Bend).** A horse is said to be straight if his body (head to tail) is straight, on a straight line or when he is curved or bent on a circle or turn. The hind feet follow the track of the forefeet in both instances. Some use the head to tail word "straight" on the straight only and "bend" for the head to tail curve. If the horse bends laterally at the poll or gullet it is often called flexion. The word flexion is sometimes interchanged with the word bend. The Rules For Driving only use the term bend, with no explanation. The bend, or arc to the outside, is very slight in driven dressage as circles and turns are minimal, not excessive. The position of the driven dressage horse's head **should** be such that the driver is just able to see the side of the horse's inside winker or eye. Some say this is sufficient bend. Remember, the neck should not be bent more than the whole body. There is disagreement over the degree of driven dressage bend required.

- q. **Cadence.** Cadence is when a pace has pronounced rhythm. The horse has freedom of his shoulder, a springiness to his stride through greater flexion of the joints and engagement of the hindquarters, and the period of suspension is pronounced.
- r. **Lengthened Trot** (lengthened stride in trot). Lengthened trot is a longer stride with more power than the working trot, but of the same rhythm. It is the initial training prior to the extended trot and is asked for in novice tests. The horse must lengthen stride and lower his croup, while remaining on light contact.
- s. **Develop Collected Trot.** A test may stipulate a distance within which the driver can achieve collection e.g. 'Between C & M develop collected trot'. This allows a horse at an intermediate level (not advanced) of training to gradually develop collected trot.

Annex A to Chapter 2

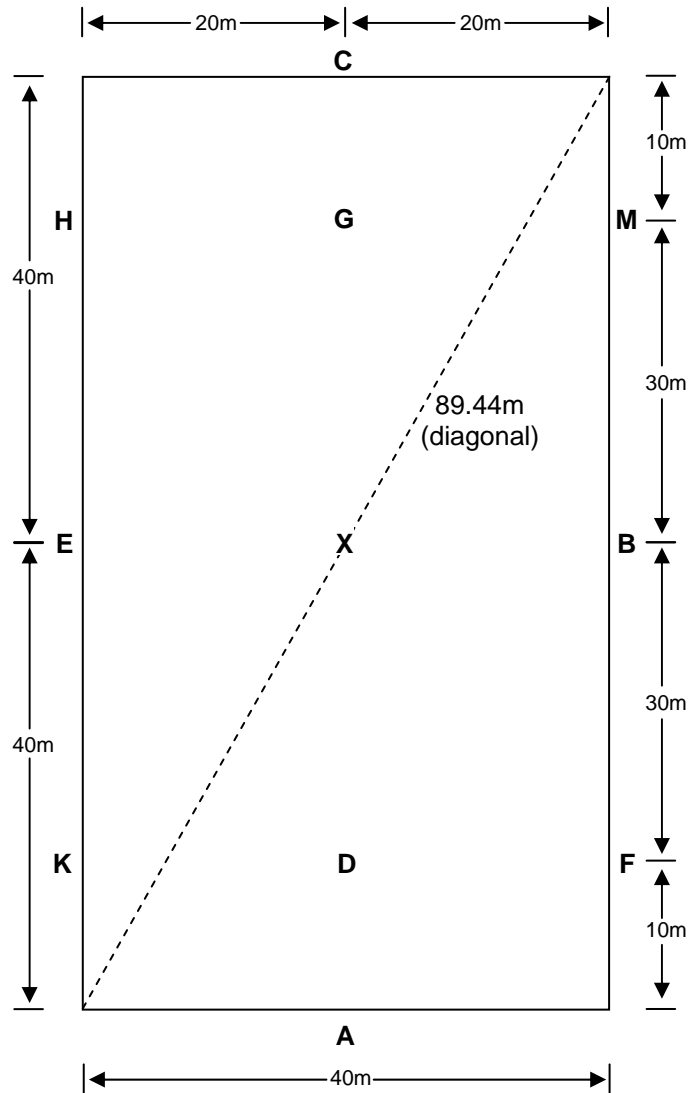
DRESSAGE ARENA SETUP 100 m x 40m



Note:

1. If sides I-III or I-II need to be parallel to a particular fence, etc, then some juggling of the position of point IV may be required.

Annex B to Chapter 2
DRESSAGE ARENA 80m x 40m



CHAPTER THREE

USING THE SCALE OF MARKS

A Guideline for Driven Dressage Judging

Use the Range

These useful guidelines on using the Scale of Marks were originally produced by Stephen Clarke GB, FEI Official International Judge, to help the ridden dressage judges. With his permission these have been changed so that they apply to the driven horse. I hope that you will find them helpful. – Diana Brownlie, FEI 'O' International Judge (Driving).

Our job as Judges is to be as fair and clear with the marks as possible. If we see a “very good” or “excellent” movement we should be brave enough to reward the competitor. However if the movement is only worth a 6, then only give a 6. We can only mark what we see – not guess what the movement may look like. Reward the well driven movements, and give a low mark with helpful and constructive comments to a lesser performance.

0 — Not Executed

This mark is given very rarely and only when a movement is not executed, such as a Horse trotting through the entire walk movement, or a circle is forgotten. If a Horse does not reinback, or the halt is not established at all. If there is a fragment of the movement performed, a higher mark is in order. Normally the President of Jury will ring the bell and ask for the movement to be re-driven.

1 — Very Bad & 2 — Bad

These marks are about severe resistance. If a Horse stops, runs back, kicks, rears or is disobedient.

3 — Fairly Bad

This could be given if there is fairly bad resistance, or a resistance combined with a lack of quality and/or mistakes. If there is a total lack of quality and mistakes it would also be possible to give a 3 or even a 2.

4 — Insufficient

The most important thing when giving a 4 is that one thinks of the movement as “insufficient”. If in the quality area the horse loses the regularity throughout the movement caused by stiffness or resistance rather than unsoundness. In cases of “Error of Test” when an attempt at a movement has been made but is not successful (collected/extended trot), this would be appropriate. If bending is not consistent throughout the test then the mark should be 4 or possibly 5.

5 — Sufficient

If the movement has been achieved, even if somewhat restricted, earthbound, lacking suppleness or impulsion, as long as regularity is clear and the figure is fairly accurate it can warrant a 5. Clearly state in your remarks why the movement is not ‘satisfactory’. When there is nothing wrong with the quality, such as in a reinback where the quality is good but there were too many

or too few steps back, or on the other hand if the steps back were as required but the quality was poor such as not backing straight, the mark is 5. However, if in the too few step example the quality is poor, a 4 is appropriate as a 6 when quality is good. If a horse is falling in on the corners and circles on only one rein but is otherwise able to hold his balance and rhythm, a 5 may be an appropriate mark.

6 — Satisfactory

Covers a very wide spectrum. When the movement is basically correct but lacking in quality – not supple enough, needing more engagement and balance, or maybe the contact is inconsistent. This can also be for a high quality of movement with a small mistake or inaccuracy. For example, a good collection in a circle that is “too big”. Straightness issues often result in 6’s as long as the quality is otherwise good.

7 — Fairly Good

There is usually nothing to really complain about with a 7. Normally everything needs a little more impulsion, suppleness, expression and/or cadence. The basic qualities are clear and show a certain amount of harmony and ease within the movement itself.

8 — Good

There must be no basic problems. The movement has been properly executed. Maybe there was an extended trot that was worth a 9 but came down to 8 because the transition was not good enough. Usually it is the secondary part of the movement that stops it being 9, like a transition, or the following collected/working trot on the short side. A 30m working trot circle may be balanced and regular but could do with some more impulsion and elasticity.

9 — Very Good

“Goose bump material”, with most of the movement being excellent.

10 — Excellent

Perfection – no room for improvement. It is something very special to give a 10, and if awarded too lightly will lose its significance.

CHAPTER FOUR

JUDGING THE DRIVEN DRESSAGE TESTS

JUDGING GUIDELINES AND SCORING ADVICE

JUDGING MULTIPLES

JUDGING TANDEMS

RIDDEN & DRIVEN DRESSAGE – IS THERE A DIFFERENCE?

CHAPTER 4

DRIVEN DRESSAGE TESTS

Judging Guidelines And Scoring Advice

Reproduced from the Manual For Driven Dressage, American Driving Society, December 1996, Chapter 8
(first produced by the Dressage Committee of the American Driving Society in 1992),
with the permission of the American Driving Society.
Some minor alterations inserted by ACDS

Text in italics denotes alterations from the original due to differences in Australian tests and their grading.

1. General Considerations

- a. Dressage judges (and any person who is aspiring to become a judge) should be aware of the impact their decisions and opinions can have on the sport, and the direction it will take.
- b. Judging a dressage test is very different from judging any other equestrian performance; just following and applying the rules is only a small part of the process. Because the main objective of dressage competition is to evaluate the correctness of each horse's training, judging a dressage class is almost entirely subject to the judge's opinion. Therefore, being a responsible and competent dressage judge requires a great measure of ethical and technical qualities and a strong and courageous but humble personality.
- c. A responsible judge must be able to:
 - (1) fully understand the philosophy and know and understand the rules and requirements of the sport;
 - (2) be absolutely dedicated and committed to the purity of the dressage principles and to the well-being of the horses;
 - (3) be absolutely sincere, to continuously improve on one's skills and to stay current through reading, attending forums, etc;
 - (4) have the courage to stand on one's own convictions and judgement beyond the influence of anyone and show confidence and firmness in one's abilities and decisions;
 - (5) help maintain and/or improve on the existing standard of the sport through thorough, considerate and honest evaluation of performances;
 - (6) be aware that given scores and comments could likely influence the competitor's future training program;
 - (7) help the competitor improve their performance through comments that are clear, precise, constructive, objective and unemotional;
 - (8) judge the training of the horse, regardless of who is driving;

- (9) judge only what one sees in the ring during the test and not compare the horse to possible previous performances or according to a horse's reputation;
 - (10) be mindful not to fraternise with exhibitors at a show when officiating;
 - (11) be most courteous and professional when dealing with competitors, show committee members and fellow judges;
 - (12) be neatly and appropriately attired in a style suitable for the competition.
 - (13) have at least some driving experience in order to be able to relate to the difficulty of the task and consequently assess a competitor more rationally and sympathetically.
- d. Ideally, no judge should officiate in a contest at a higher level and/or with different turnouts than they have experienced as a driver. As this is not always possible, one should make consistent efforts to fill any gaps that may exist in one's understanding of the standard of dressage involved.

2. Judging Requirements

a. Preparation should include:

- (1) Secure knowledge of the test(s) to be judged. This includes knowing the pattern of the test as well as the exact content of each movement. Drawing multi-coloured diagrams (or tip cards) beforehand is a very helpful method.
- (2) A very detailed grasp of the rule book and where to look for answers to specific problems.
- (3) Early arrival at the show to enable the judge to verify the test(s) being used, the starting time and the number of competitors. They should meet the scribe and discuss ground rules for abbreviations, procedures, limits on conversation, etc. This is the time to find out if the scribe is equal to the job, and if not, request that management provide another. If a scribe cannot reliably put down on paper what the judge wants to say to the competitor, all efforts involved are useless and the competitor goes home with a poor opinion about the show and the judge and/or possibly having received wrong advice due to the poor performance of the scribe. It is the responsibility of the judge, however, to develop a very precise and "shorthand" language so the scribe can fit the comments into the small spaces.
- (4) Instructing the show management about particular requests (e.g. keeping anybody out of hearing distance from the judging booth, no interruptions while judging, keeping spectators at required distance, etc).
- (5) Bringing everything that might be needed during the day (rule book, pencils, sharpener, bell/whistle, sunscreen, extra clothes, rain gear, extra tests, etc).

b. Judging the test

- (1) The competitor deserves the judge's full and undivided attention, from the entrance into the ring to the exit. Anything less is not acceptable.
- (2) The judge must evaluate every step of each movement and each movement as a whole for all the required dressage principles plus the required path and accuracy, and has to decide quickly at the end of each movement what score to give and what comments to make. This requires the judge to know exactly what the competitor has to do, what it should look like and how it should be done.
- (3) While fully concentrating on the competitor, the judge has to try to maintain exactly the same standard of evaluation from beginning to end, between one horse and another and for all the movements made by each individual horse. The mark of eight, for instance, must have exactly the same meaning for each and every horse. Many factors will tempt the judge to vary their standards as the hours go by and as many different types of horses and turnouts come before them.
- (4) The judge must be fair and not partial to one breed or type of animal. What is to be judged is the training of the animal, not its beauty or natural ability. They must at all times carry a picture in their mind of what a horse should look like who is exhibiting all the important principles like, to name a few, suppleness, regularity, straightness and engagement and they must be able to adjust this picture to the various breeds, sizes and types of horses and the particular conformation of each animal. The judge should not have one ideal horse (e.g. Warmblood, Arabian or Hackney) in a certain frame in their mind and penalise every horse who does not look like this image. This is especially important in driving as there are so many different breeds competing in one class. However, if a talented horse of any breed shows the same correct training as a less talented horse and his (the first horse's) performance clearly exemplifies a higher quality movement, he must be rewarded for it.
- (5) While evaluating the ongoing test in the ring the judge must be very careful to keep faults in perspective. For instance, was it the driver's mistake that caused an abrupt transition or is the horse's basic training at fault? Or, if a problem appears repeatedly, it must be considered a lack of training (or driver skill) and needs to be marked down each time it occurs and also in the collective marks. If it happens only once, it can be considered as a slip and should have very little impact on the collective marks.
- (6) While the horse is in the ring the judge has to try to gather, through thorough observation, any possible information about the horse. When giving the collective marks and final comments, any little gesture of the horse is important (e.g. the expression of the face, the motions of the mouth, the way the horse moves his ears and carries his tail) and all these factors have to be taken into consideration.
- (7) The judge should make as many comments as possible so the competitor can recreate the test and see it through the judge's eyes. In order to fit into the small spaces provided, however, comments must be brief and clear.
- (8) Every comment given should be as positive as possible without minimising a major training problem.

- (9) Each score should be explained through comments. If only explaining scores of five and below, the overall evaluation of the test may appear very negative as these scores reveal lots of problems. A competitor must also be told what was good and should be informed equally why he received an eight or nine, but not a ten.
- (10) After each test the judge has to totally clear his mind for the next competitor.

c. **Accuracy**

- (1) Accuracy is an essential element of a test performance as it is to a large extent synonymous with obedience, responsiveness and submission. However, it should not be allowed to take priority over a number of other factors that embody the very essence of dressage training.
- (2) Especially in the Novice tests, the emphasis should be on the basic training principles rather than on total accuracy.
- (3) For instance, one competitor's horse is relaxed, supple and rhythmic, bends properly around turns and shows smooth transitions, but the driver is, at times, two feet off the rail and does not drive the figures very accurately.
- (4) A second competitor drives six inches from the rail and drives a very accurate pattern, but the horse is tense, looks to the outside during turns and throws the head up in almost every transition.
- (5) Of course the first driver needs to receive some markdown for inaccuracy, but the training of the horse is progressing correctly and therefore the future training of the horse is not jeopardised. This competitor can easily improve on the accuracy as the horse is supple and flexible.
- (6) The second horse shows insufficient or faulty training and dressage has been misunderstood as a mere pattern driving rather than the gymnastic development of the horse. This driver is on the wrong track and any future training of the horse is greatly in jeopardy. Correcting this horse may mean starting the training all over again. The scores and comments **must** reflect this major problem.
- (7) As the horse moves up to open/advanced levels, a high degree of accuracy must be expected. However, the same principles still apply. Incorrect training must still be penalised more severely than inaccuracy.

d. **Transitions**

- (1) Transitions reveal more about the training of the horse than the actual movement and must be strongly considered when scoring a movement.
- (2) For instance, when lengthening the stride across the diagonal, the up and down transitions (and in some tests the corner before and after) have to receive the same importance as the actual lengthening. Therefore, a horse exhibiting an engaged, powerful and regular lengthening with poor transitions has to receive the same or

even a lower score than a horse with smooth and correct transitions, but only a very moderate lengthening.

e. **Correct lateral bend**

- (1) Correct dressage training is most evident in a properly executed lateral bend when going through a turn.
- (2) A horse that bends properly to each side must have been trained according to the dressage principles.
- (3) Horses which bend only in one direction and not at all in the other direction must be watched very carefully as they may not be bending truly at all. They may just be very crooked and appear to be bent, however the inside hind leg is not following the track of the inside front leg.
- (4) If in doubt, straight lines will usually tell about the true nature of a bend. If the horse moves perfectly straight on a straight line, it cannot be assumed that he does bend correctly both ways.

f. **Errors of Test & Errors of Course**

Refer to Rules for Driving 936.2 (error of test), 936.3 (error of course). *See Chapter 2, 11j of this Manual.*

g. **Frame**

- (1) This is a relationship that must exist between engagement of the hindquarters and the resulting elevation in front. It is not a static and right position maintained through tenseness but rather the balanced self-carriage of a correctly trained horse. Herein lies the ability and knowledge of a judge to see what is good or bad. For judging purposes we firmly accept the notion that we can describe or define - "This is a *novice* level frame, this is an *open* level frame, etc."
- (2) The judge has to decide for himself or herself about every horse at any given level if this horse is in the appropriate frame (posture) in relation to his conformation and type for this specific level.

h. **Scoring**

- (1) A score is the sum of information that results from the evaluation of many different components.
- (2) All the important principles like freedom and regularity of the paces, good balance and rhythm, lightness of the forehand and engagement of the hindquarters, willing submission and obedience etc. must find recognition in each given score.
- (3) By following these principles, judges will be able to remind competitors that the ultimate aims are to produce an obedient, smooth and supple horse that is pleasant in his paces as well as a pleasure to drive.

- (4) Equally important is the consideration of the level that is being judged, as different problems will call for different scores in each level, and how many components of each movement have been mastered successfully by the horse.
- (5) When scoring movements with several components, each one should receive a mark in the judge's mind, as each segment is equally important. The average of these mental marks should account for the total score.
- (6) A similar consideration should be given when, for instance, the first half of a trot lengthening was very poor with several canter strides, but the second half was very nice. In the judge's mind, this movement should be divided into a bad part and a good part and the score should reflect these considerations.
- (7) Also, scores and comments must compliment each other. For instance, it would be very wrong to score a seven for a rein-back and comment on it as a "very good rein-back". Very good means a 9.

i. Scoring a Test

- (1) Zero or "not executed" means that almost nothing of any part of the required pattern of the movement was performed.
- (2) One or "very bad" is usually given for travelling from one point to another regardless of assorted bucks, stalls or rears.
- (3) Two or "bad" is scored for slightly less spectacular resistances. The movement needs to be only marginally recognisable and only a small portion needs to be at the required gait. Ones and twos will not be given very often.
- (4) Three or "fairly bad" will be a little more common. Basically, it means that either some almost recognisable movement was poorly performed, the horse definitely has less than four properly working legs and that there are unscheduled transitions into other gaits.
- (5) In order to earn a four or "insufficient" it had to mean that the horse travelled successfully, although not necessarily accurately, through the prescribed exercise and figure in the required gait (although the gait may be too fast, too slow and/or very irregular and tense). The horse may be above or behind the bit, show lack of impulsion and submission, did not show any bend or was counter flexed. Any marked resistance or other major fault for an otherwise lovely performance may also earn a four.
- (6) Five or "sufficient" should be given when the horse maintained his gait, was relatively regular, performed the exercise without violent resistances, was somewhat accurate and at least part of the time sort of accepted the bit and showed some degree of bend in turns. A five would also be appropriate if the horse performed an accurate figure in a regular pace, but his steps were tense and choppy. Five is a very decisive score. There is a big difference between four and five and between five and six. When awarding either one a judge should always be sure of the decision: was it insufficient or sufficient or was it better than that?

- (7) Six or “satisfactory” means that the movement as a whole is better than “Whew, we did it!”, but lacks real quality. Little things will pull an otherwise fairly good performance down to a six. A too-short neck and tense back or a severe inaccuracy combined with a lovely rhythmic trot may account for it, or a lovely walk may earn an eight, but poor transitions will bring it down to six.
 - (8) Seven or “fairly good” designates moderate quality. Not only should the required movement be performed fairly accurately, but the horse should move well with balance and fairly good impulsion and elasticity. The horse should be quite steady and free of obvious resistance, bend correctly and move in a round frame. Some minor mistakes may occur, but good training must shine through each step.
 - (9) Eight or “good” is a very steady, reliable and accurate seven. The horse may make up for a minor mistake by showing very good impulsion or bending, or absolute precision and accuracy may make up for a brief loss of impulsion or bend.
 - (10) In order to receive a nine or “very good”, the horse must show a very high level of correctness. A nine requires a very good team effort between a competent driver and a responsive horse. No mistake may occur and all training principles must be exhibited at all times during a movement.
 - (11) A ten or “excellent” requires absolute perfection in every regard. Both performance and execution have to be absolutely flawless.
- j. Dressage scoring is extremely complex, requiring knowledgeable analysis of all the components that make up a performance. The goal of scoring is to place appropriate judgement on each movement and the overall test itself. This goal means that scores must be given with great consideration and common sense and the judge should mark each movement exactly the way they see it, regardless of the person who is showing the horse and regardless of possible criticism by colleagues or show management.
- k. Using scores only in the range between four and seven will not advance the sport and may not be fair to the horse and competitor. It takes courage and knowledge to use high and low scores and support them with comments that are the result of correct observation. A poor performance must receive a low mark, while a really good performance must receive a nine or ten, regardless of who is showing the horse. There is an enormous pressure on a judge sometimes, but honesty must prevail if driven dressage is to advance.

3. Gaits

Diagrams illustrating the general points of the accepted gaits at Annex A.

JUDGING MULTIPLES

1. General

- a. Horses need not match in size, stride, temperament, movement or type. Horses must not be antagonistic toward each other.
- b. Horses must be comfortable and harnessed correctly as per Rules for Driving:
 - the pole must be of a correct length and horses must have enough space alongside it; (in a four-in-hand wheelers not reaching the leader bars).
 - individual pole straps must be long enough to allow the horse to turn correctly;
 - swingletrees must be long enough and pivot to enable horses to move unrestricted;
 - traces must be of proper length.
- c. The driver must be seated as per Rules for Driving, with good rein contact and horses lightly on the bit. The brake can be used to facilitate a smooth test, but prolonged locking should be avoided. Breeching is often not used on wheelers, but is an acceptable addition.
- d. The driver must use their voice and whip to advantage when necessary. The whip is used as a leg aid for the horse to bend around. The whip should be of correct length to reach the leaders (although the lash may be tied).

2. Movement

- a. During the entire dressage test, wheelers take the weight of the carriage while the leaders are virtually out of draught with traces slightly bowed.
- b. All horses should all move forward with good impulsion.
- c. All movements must be smooth and in unison, including transitions and rein-back.
- d. Horses are judged as a team during the test and not as individual horses.
- e. The driver makes the change of movement at the time the leaders head reaches the point indicated on the test. Because of the length of the turnout, the pace changes may be a little slow with the driver allowing all horses to be balanced before attempting the change of pace (especially relevant on diagonal extensions) or halting and moving off again.
- f. All horses should bend on circles and turns.
- g. The wheeler(s) of both four-in-hands and tandems must learn **not** to turn as soon as they see the leader(s) turning. It must be momentarily delayed.
- h. Wheelers should follow the line of the leaders' track and not cut corners on circles and turns.
- i. All horses should move straight and not lean into or pull away from each other.
- j. A clear change of flexion when changing direction is required by all horses.

JUDGING TANDEMS

1. Both horses should be judged as one. It should be expected of both horses to perform each movement with obedience, lightness and maintenance of pace. If one horse breaks pace or does not achieve a pace, it is considered that the tandem made the error.
2. Judges should be especially conscious that wheelers are collecting and extending. Wheelers are also expected to be on the bit and in the correct frame. Wheeler following and falling in and not being on the bit is very often missed, as the judge is too involved with the leader only. If the wheeler is not performing the movement, the tandem must be penalised accordingly.
3. Leaders must not go into draught. Corners cannot be driven correctly with a leader in draught. The wheeler will be pulled into a shorter line. Maintenance of pace cannot be achieved if a leader is going in and out of draught. In all parts of the test the horses must be driven on the bit so the combination can maintain rhythm and balance.
4. Judges should watch rein-backs with sympathy. It is a very difficult movement for a tandem to be straight. It is very rare to see a correct rein-back however marks must be available to reward the achievement. Judges should watch for the wheeler dragging the leader backwards. This will keep the tandem in line but should not be considered correct. Horses should rein-back in unison, without resistance as a single is expected to do.
5. Tandems should make each change of pace on the leader's head, as with a single. We often seen tandems driving around the arena in correct frame but not actually changing pace. This can sometimes look good to an inexperienced judge as no pressure is applied to the horses; no resistance or breaks of pace take place. They drive well around the corners with nice straight lines. Often this sort of test scores well against a driver who is putting pressure on their horses to obtain collection or extension and maybe they get some resistance or the odd break of pace. It is up to the judges to ensure flat tests with no change of pace do not become contagious. Correct footfall, maintenance of rhythm, obedience and lightness with horses on the bit in the correct frame, working together as a tandem, must be the expectation of judges.
6. One-handed movements with tandems are difficult but not impossible. Judges should expect these movements to be driven with accuracy. A large number of drivers can do this. When driving a one-handed movement, the reins should be in the left hand with the right hand carrying the whip. The whip may be used as an aid when required. The driver's voice should not be penalised. Figures should be accurately driven with correct use made of the arena.
7. Judges should look for horses being driven in correct tandem formation with the leader and wheeler using the same track, on the straight and around the corners. Both horses should have the correct frame. Paces should be judged in the same manner for tandems as for singles. Both horses must achieve each pace with elasticity, obedience and lightness to achieve a good score – if only one horse is correct the combination must be marked down. Don't forget the wheeler. Watch that the wheeler is not falling in – flexion should be expected from both horses.
8. Tandem driving is difficult and requires a lot of work to achieve a reasonable result. Be as constructive with comments as possible. Be careful to put the correct mark to the comment and don't be afraid to use all marks from one to ten.

RIDDEN AND DRIVEN DRESSAGE - IS THERE A DIFFERENCE?

Written to assist judges to realistically determine their expectations from the performance before them.

It can be unnerving to drive a horse when you have always ridden one. You only have long, relatively heavy reins, a long whip you cannot manage and the sudden realisation that the horse cannot understand your voice and is too far away to pat. Involuntarily you give useless leg aids and wonder what on earth you will do if the horse takes off, as his turning circle has now a far greater diameter than under saddle. You have been informed that dressage training should be the same whether the horse is ridden or driven. He should execute a collected trot, working trot and extended trot. He should show all the dressage features of relaxation, straightness/bend, outline, rhythm, impulsion, obedience, etc.

The ultimate goals of training are lower in driven dressage, but the basic training principles are the same.

1. Balance And Weight

- a. The horse naturally carries more of his body weight on his front legs, with some variation due to conformation. To achieve good balance, ridden or driven, the aim is to encourage the horse to place more weight on his hindquarters. He becomes lighter in the forehand, more agile and comfortable.
- b. Dr H.K.M. Van Schaik, in an article reproduced in the ACDS Journal Volume 5, No. 17 of December 1983, wrote "The horse(s) balance is not the same when it is ridden as when it is driven (singles and wheelers)... Ridden dressage schooling teaches the horse to carry more of the weight with the haunches, lightening the forehand and pushing with the hindquarters to do this... In pulling a light vehicle the horse shifts less towards its forehand (than if it were pulling a really heavy vehicle), but as long as it is in draught (pulling), it cannot carry weight with the haunches to the same degree that a ridden horse is able to do... Extended gaits, though maybe not a classically perfect extension, should be possible with a light vehicle (not used very much in Australia as dressage has, until recently, been basically associated with combined driving). I would not expect (real) collected gaits because these require a shifting of balance towards the haunches, which is not compatible with pulling. In real collection the horse is able to be light and dancing in front because the hindquarters carry the weight rather than push. This cannot be done in draught." The weight of a pushed vehicle inhibits the reach of the front legs and the harness restricts shoulder freedom, hence we rarely, if ever, see a harness horse in a collected trot moving in an uphill manner.
- c. To collect, we ask the horse to "work forward and upward, but the carriage still needs to be moved only forward, because we cannot alter the centre of gravity of a vehicle as we can with a rider. When the horse attempts collection, his workload actually increases." (Carriage Driving, by Heike Bean and Sarah Blanchard, p.215). It is far more difficult for the driven horse than the ridden horse. "Driving horses then, in our opinion, are really only required to show a light degree of collection, and the lowering of the haunches is minimal." (Carriage Driving, p.216).

2. The Influence Of Driving Aids

- a. The driver has his voice, reins and whip to influence his horse(s) in the arena and to a certain degree the influences of earlier training under saddle or in long reins. Driving reins are longer and heavier than riding reins, possibly giving a more remote control with slightly slower operational time. To achieve contact with individual members of a multiple is not so easily achieved as with a single. Four-in-hands should not display overall strong contact as the horses could become uncontrollable. Keeping the leaders of a four-in-hand out of draught, with traces straight but not taut can assist overall balance of the horses, as the wheelers are pushing and the leaders free.
- b. Only a few Australian driven dressage horses are trained under saddle. As drivers find understanding driving and ridden dressage instructors, the sport will produce more quality performances.
- c. Possibly less lateral bend is expected with the driving horse, due to pushed weight, a lack of riders seat and leg aids and the less tight curves and circles required in driven tests.

3. Avoidable Factors that Inhibit Paces Of The Driven Horse

- a. The horse may or may not be comfortable being strapped into the vehicle. Is the breeching too loose, which could accentuate his loss of balance? Is the breeching too tight, inhibiting the extended trot? Is the breastplate too low, making pulling (or pushing) of the vehicle extremely annoying or difficult.
- b. Is the two-wheeled vehicle balanced? Even if balanced, the shafts could, on uneven ground, tend to move up or down producing a sudden weight on the saddle or a slap up under the belly. An unbalanced vehicle with too much weight forward could produce a consistent vibration on the saddle or cause the shafts to sway from side to side. Too much weight back may cause the shaft points to rise, which is most unsightly and could inhibit bend.
- c. An uneven arena can cause the shafts of a two wheeled vehicle (and to a lesser extent the pole of the four wheeled vehicle) to somewhat deflect a horse from being straight at any pace and during transitions. To be straight, the horse's hind feet should follow exactly the track of the forefeet and his spine should adjust to the exact line the horse is following, whether moving in a straight or curved line. The horse must be steady with even rhythm. All distractions need to be eliminated to achieve this purpose.
- d. There are mechanical reasons to generally favour short-coupling (between the front and larger diameter rear wheels) of four wheeled vehicles, that is they are easier to pull. Draught is also influenced by where the load is carried on the vehicle. Generally, if the rear, larger diameter wheels carry the most weight, the draught will lessen. The roll of the wheel depends on the road surface, the load carried and the diameter of the wheel. It has been said that doubling the diameter of the wheel halves the draught required to pull a given load (in an article by Dr Gordon Cattle, Horse International, December 1986).
- e. Draught is easier if traces are straight from breastplate or collar, to the vehicle.

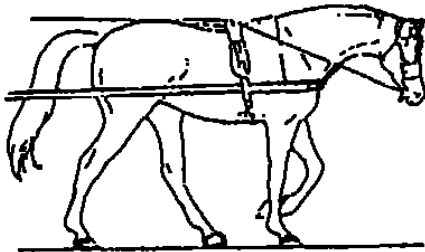
- f. The width between the shafts and the width of the swingletree influence lateral bend for singles and wheelers. The width between the shafts for singles must allow room for bend on circles and corners. The horse's inside shoulder will move closer to the inside shaft and its outside haunches will move closer to the outside shaft. If the horse has insufficient room, his inside hind leg will remain too far to the inside of the bend or circle and he will not track or bend correctly.
- g. Concerning the width of the swingletree, whilst bending, the outside of a horse's body becomes longer. If the swingletree cannot pivot sufficiently, the outside trace cannot lengthen (move forward) and the horse is inhibited, regardless of the width between the shafts.

4. Points To Consider

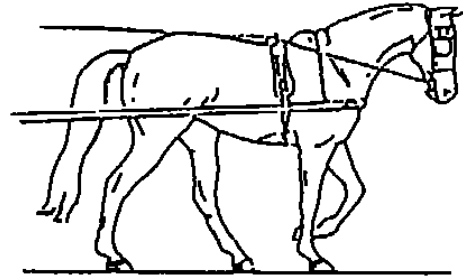
- a. These points are of great interest to all drivers (and horses) and should be carefully considered.
 - (1) It should be noted that knee action and high head carriage are expected from some harness horses, e.g. Hackneys and Friesians. They can still show extension even if their head carriage is acceptably higher. They might be said to have a slightly hollow back, which is, if not rigid and tense, acceptable.
 - (2) We may not have a Grand Prix driven dressage horse, but we can have the test movements as an exhibition of beauty, control and power. Judges should judge as per ACDS combined driving event dressage guidelines.

Annex A to Chapter 4

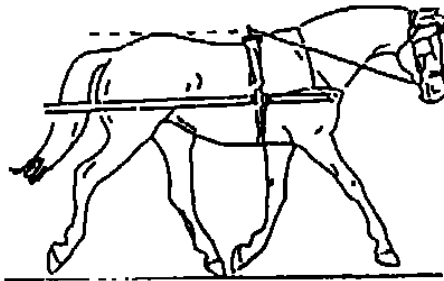
GAITS



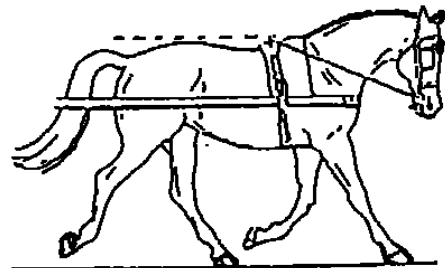
Walk



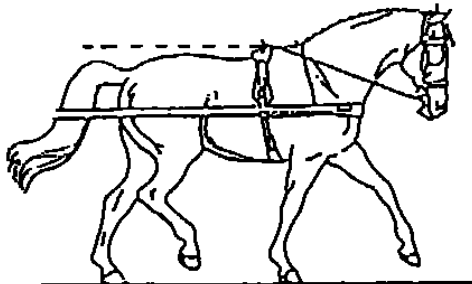
Walk On The Bit



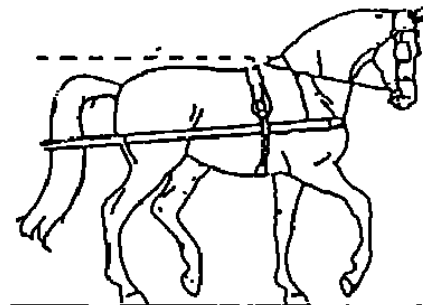
Working Trot



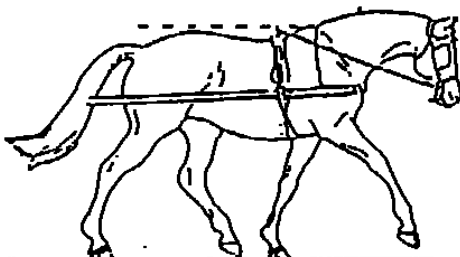
higher degree Working Trot



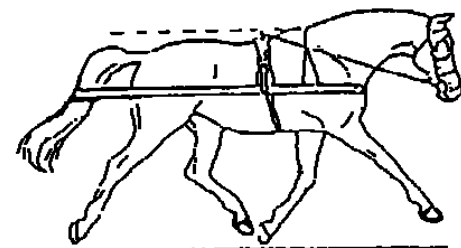
Collected Trot



higher degree Collected Trot



lengthening toward
Extended Trot



Extended Trot

CHAPTER FIVE

MISCELLANEOUS

AIDE MEMOIRE

THE DRIVEN DRESSAGE PENCILLER

SCORE SHEET ABBREVIATIONS

CHAPTER 5

MISCELLANEOUS

AIDE MEMOIRE FOR DRIVEN DRESSAGE JUDGES

1. Ensure your membership to the ACDS is current. Do not accept a judging appointment unless you have attended a refresher within the previous 3 years.
2. Remember, never leave home without your FEI Rules for Driving with Australian Variations and keep them up-to-date.
3. You are responsible for checking that the arena is correctly set up. Arrive in time to check this and have put right anything that is wrong.
4. Talk to your penciller before judging begins. Run through the test together and explain what you want them to do. Remind the penciller not to discuss the tests outside.
5. You must keep to time as far as possible, so don't waste time and don't take too long writing up your sheets.
6. Don't forget to sign each sheet and initial changes.
7. Don't mark differently for novices. Don't reward mediocrity. Do, however, try to make more comments for novices and be as helpful in your comments as you can.
8. High marks speak for themselves and so you need not comment. Low marks must have comments so that the competitor will be able to tell what was wrong.
9. Remember that all dressage requires the horse to willingly do what is required of them, therefore if you see resistance you must mark it down.
10. Mark what you see. If the work is poor, mark accordingly and vice versa, but always keep in mind straightness (correct flexion) and regularity, as well as accuracy.
11. Don't forget to watch the driver as well as the horse(s). Two hands on the reins during the one-handed circle, or two hands on the reins late (unpreparedness) or early (inability to maintain the circle), must be noticed by you.
12. Remember that lameness should preferably be marked down for irregularity throughout the test, bearing in mind that the vet at the beginning of an event may have checked the animal. Note on your sheet if you think the vet should check an animal.
13. If a single over 91cm and under 121cm is not carrying a groom and gets into difficulties and requires assistance from outside the arena, you will mark as for a groom dismounting.

14. If judges have to be changed (for whatever reason) during the day, don't allow that change until the completion of a class, e.g. at the end of the Open Horse class.
15. If you have to ask a competitor to leave the arena (elimination), e.g. because a groom was talking or indicating the way to go, remember to be polite but firm.
16. You must be prepared to train to be part of the ground jury at an event and therefore must be conversant with all the rules of CDEs.
17. Don't allow your prejudices to show. There are good and bad in every breed. Many breeds are used in driving and you must keep an open mind about all of them.
18. Although the voice is a recognised aid in driving, it should not be obtrusive during a test.
19. Keep the scores and their meanings on a small sheet in front of you, as long periods of concentration are tiring and you may want to check, for example, that four is "insufficient".
20. Try to judge to a standard all day. Don't start high unless you see good or very good work, otherwise you may find later, when something with class appears, you cannot reward it.
21. If you have given very poor marks and hard comments to a novice, always try to put something encouraging at the bottom of the sheet. "Don't despair", "keep trying", "persevere", etc can help to cheer when everything else seems bad.
22. **Horses** - winkers optional; dropped nosebands OK; top-reins, overchecks, martingales, draw-reins NO; bandages, boots may be worn however there will be 10 penalties awarded and the driver requested to remove them at the end of the test to enable the judge at C to make an inspection. If the bandages are covering an injury etc the vet will be called.
Drivers - gloves, apron, hat, whip in hand for driver; for groom hat and gloves.
Vehicle - Reflectors are compulsory. Lamps must be carried if vehicle fitted for them.
23. During the test, the judge continuously watches, observes, controls, assesses and marks:
 - the horse is on the bit, accepting it with a light, continuous and soft contact, head steady, slightly in front of the vertical, with a supple poll at the highest point of the neck, jaw relaxed;
 - the hindquarters remain engaged, strides are even and regular, forehand is light and impulsion is correct;
 - horse's suppleness, lightness, softness and harmony of movements; and
 - regularity of paces, horse relaxed, loose and unconstrained through the body.
24. Basic faults caused by the driver:
 - inaccurate movements;
 - lack of preparation before transitions/corners, changes of direction, etc;
 - not sitting straight, balanced and upright in the vehicle and jamming hands and fingers;
 - not truly going with the horse, especially in extension;
 - not checking horse's straightness and balance before transitions, especially before extended or collected work; and
 - whip and hands not working in harmony with horse.
25. Horse faults (usually created by poor driving)

- unsteady outline and unbalanced;
- stride irregular and uneven, especially in transitions;
- lacking impulsion;
- lacking straightness; and
- not flexing to inside on curved lines.

THE DRIVEN DRESSAGE PENCILLER

1. On The Day Of The Event

- Meet your judge half an hour (at least) before the start of the competition. You will be given: clipboard, pen, list of competitor's numbers and dressage score sheets.
- As a penciller you must be confident you can spell and print neatly and quickly. Do not volunteer to pencil if you cannot fulfil these requirements.
- Record the competitor's number at the top of the sheet. The number will be tied to the back of the vehicle (or somewhere!). If by any chance there is no number, write a description of the turnout at the top of the sheet, to enable the competitor to be identified.
- Write the judge's comments, which refer to the movement being performed, in the correct column. One to three lines of writing may be required per movement, so be sure to allow enough space to accommodate this.
- Ask the judge (before the competition commences) what their likely comments are going to consist of, or their most frequently used words, so that you are happy about spelling those words, such as rhythm, or that you know the accepted abbreviations.
- Write neatly so that competitors are able to read the comments.
- Ask your judge for a numerical mark when the movement has been completed, if they have failed to give you one.
- Do not voice an opinion on a movement, however tempting it may be to do so.
- Do not chat. The judge has an exacting job and must not be distracted.
- A steward will (generally) collect your sheets in batches. Before parting with them, make sure that:
 - there is a mark against every movement, even if there is no comment;
 - if there are errors of course, there are penalties noted on the sheet in the relevant space;
 - each test has your judge's signature and printed surname on it; and
 - the position your judge is judging from is recorded in the relevant space.
- Do not calculate the point score totals for a test yourself. That is the job of the official scorer.

1. If the last sheets have not been collected, take them to the secretary's office, together with your clipboard, pen and extra score sheets.

2. Score Sheet Comments

- a. Judges are advised to be familiar with the accepted penciller abbreviations. Pencillers should be familiar with these abbreviations also, so they will know, for example, to write "poor O" when "poor circle" is commented on. Judges may have some difficulty at times, making short or precise comments to cover some aspect of a movement or performance, however, there will be times when a sentence is necessary to explain a point.
- b. The following are some suggested comments (these make use of the accepted abbreviations - see Annex A to this chapter):

unsteady halt; halt not sustained; restless at halt; hurried, rushed or tense halt;
halt too abrupt; unbalanced halt
calm, responsive, balanced, square, smooth halt; excellent or rock-like halt; good move-off
crooked RB; supple RB

rushed CT, WT or ET

losing rhythm on O, O awkward shape; O too □; dropping in on O; nice bend on O
head looking out on O

(not straight on O is also correct, but few drivers know the meaning so don't use it)
flexing well to inside of turn; not flexing in O (if you are sure the driver understands)
supple change of rein through X (re figure of eight); good flexion (bend) change at X

fair or some attempt at ET; lengthening insuff; running or no ET;
some lengthening; skipping in ET; broke pace in ET

one hand not sustained; hand on rein at X

late trans; abrupt trans; rough trans; more prep needed prior to trans, change of movement
anticipating trans; good trans; accurate, responsive trans, no definition of paces

insufficient; not enough; heavy on forehand, lacking impulsion, could be lighter in front
coming well from behind; well trained, skilled, educated; tense

resisting through jaw; resisting bit; head unsteady; tipping or tilting head
consistent good head position; steady head

hurried; over-eager; fell into walk; irregular walk; not true walk
early into walk, trot, etc; lost impulsion
overstepping well at walk

not straight up centre, not travelling straight;
wandering or meandering down CL; drifting off CL
straight and regular up CL

outline well maintained, consistent outline
using quarters well; quarters not engaged
cutting corners, falling in, dropping in; loops not equal (especially on serpentine)
little above the bit

attentive; working well as pair/four-in-hand/tandem; not working as team
sufficient, adequate, dull, abysmal
quality, commendable, accurate, active, enjoy

It can be difficult to write specific comments for collective marks when there is an overall error. Space and time are limited. Some judges write a summary however this is not encouraged as judges are there to judge what they see, not to give a lesson. Short constructive comments are recommended. Event organisers need judges to keep to a scheduled time.

SCORE SHEET ABBREVIATIONS

The following list of abbreviations is designed to enable pencillers to keep up when writing the comments required by the judge, within the limited space on the dressage test score sheet. (judges must be sure their pencillers are familiar with this list)

AoF	accuracy of figure
CL	centre line
O	circle
CT	collected trot
diag	diagonal
↓ trans	downward transition
ext	extended, extension
ET	extended trot
Ht	halt
hur	hurried
imp	impulsion
inattn	inattentive, inattention
insuff	insufficient
L	left
OH	one-handed
RB	rein-back
reg	regular, regularity
R	right
sal	salute
serp	serpentine
□	square
st	straight
trans	transition
↑ trans	upward transition
WT	working trot
NW or LW	near wheeler or left wheeler
OW or RW	off wheeler or right wheeler
NL or LL	near leader or left leader
OL or RL	off leader or right leader

Judges may have many more, or alternative, abbreviations, but their penciller may not know them. There is an advantage in having your own penciller who is familiar with your abbreviations, and who prints legibly and quickly.

CHAPTER SIX

FREESTYLE TO MUSIC

FOR CARRIAGE DRIVING

CHAPTER 6

FREESTYLE TO MUSIC FOR CARRIAGE DRIVING

Rules

1. General

Freestyle to music for carriage driving, is conducted under ACDS Rules for Driving. Organisers are encouraged to introduce Pas de Deux etc.

2. Time

On entry, the salute at X is optional. The time starts from entry at A. Time finishes with the final salute at the end of the test. Movements performed after the prescribed time will not be scored.

3. Music

Competitors supply music on one cassette or CD, clearly labelled and rewound (cassette) to the start of the music. If driving more than one test, supply a separate cassette/CD for each test. No exit music (i.e. no music after the final salute) is to be included. Music will be turned off at the final salute.

4. Costume

Appropriate tasteful costume is optional. Fancy dress and 'gimmicks' are not appropriate. However, if wearing costume ensure that it is safe and secure and that the horse is used to it.

5. Specifications (Required movements)

Open to all horses and ponies.

Time: 5 - 6mins 30 secs

Arena: 80 x 40 mtr (100 x 40 for four-in-hands)

6. Movements

a. For movements:

- Walk on the bit - 50m minimum;
- Working trot - left and right;
- Lengthened stride at trot; and
- Circles - must show at least one on each rein with a maximum diameter of 20m.

b. Any other movements may be included, e.g. canter, collection, etc.

c. Points will be awarded in two sections:

- Technical execution of movements - 70 points
- Artistic presentation - 90 points
- Total – 160 points

JUDGING SHEET FOR FREESTYLE TO MUSIC FOR CARRIAGE DRIVING

Time Allowed: Between 5 minutes and 6 minutes 30 seconds

Open to all horses and ponies graded **Preliminary or Novice**

Arena 80 x 40 metres

Horse:

Driver:

Date:

Venue:

No:

TECHNICAL EXECUTION		POSSIBLE MARK	MARK	COEFF	TOTAL	REMARKS
1	Walk – min 50m	10				
2	Working trot – left	10				
3	Working trot – right	10				
4	Lengthening of stride	10				
5	Transitions	10				
6	Trot Circle – left 20m	10				
7	Trot Circle – right 20m	10				
ARTISTIC IMPRESSION						
8	Musicality – suitability of music to theme and rhythm of paces. Flow of composition.	10		X 2		
9	Harmony, Rhythm & Balance	10		X 2		
10	Choreography – use of arena, variety of movements, originality, teamwork if more than 1	10		X 2		
11	Turnout-horses/ponies, driver, costume & vehicle	10		X 0		
12	Artistic impression-showmanship, brilliance and impact	10		X 2		
	TOTAL POINTS	160				

To Be Deducted: Time Faults for over 6 min 30 secs or under 5 mins. Deduct 2 point

GUIDELINES FOR INTERMEDIATE AND OPEN

1. General

Freestyle to music for carriage driving, is conducted under FEI Rules, with ACDS amendments. Organisers are encouraged to introduce Pas de Deux etc.

2. Time

On entry, the salute at X is optional. The time starts from entry at A. Time finishes with the formal salute at the end of the test. Movements performed after the prescribed time will not be scored.

3. Music

Competitors supply music on one cassette or CD, clearly labelled and rewound (cassette) to the start of the music. No other music should be on the tape or CD. If driving more than one test, supply a separate cassette/CD for each test. No exit music (i.e. no music after the final salute) is to be included. Music will be turned off at the final salute

4. Costume

Appropriate tasteful costume is optional. Fancy dress and “gimmicks” are not appropriate. However, if wearing costume ensure that it is safe and secure and that the horse is used to it.

5. Specifications (Required movements)

Open to all horses and ponies graded Intermediate and Open

Time: 5 - 6mins 30 secs.

Arena: 80 x 40 metres for singles & pairs, 100 x 40 metres for teams.

6. Movements

a. For movements required:

- Walk – minimum 50m
- Working trot left and right
- Collected trot - left and right;
- Lengthened stride/Extension at trot, minimum 30m
- Trot Circles; at least one on each rein with a maximum diameter of 15m.diameter

b.. Any other movements may be included, e.g. deviations, canter, etc.

c. Points will be awarded in two sections:

- Technical execution of movements - 70 points
- Artistic presentation - 90 points
- Total — 160 points

INTERMEDIATE AND OPEN

Time Allowed: Between 5 minutes and 6 minutes 30 seconds

Open to all horses and ponies Graded **Intermediate & Open**

Arena 80 x 40 metres for singles :100 x 40 metres for Teams and Tandems

Horse:..... Driver:.....

Date:..... Venue:.....No:.....

TECHNICAL EXECUTION	POSSIBLE MARK	MARK	COEFF	TOTAL	REMARKS
Walk –min 50m					
2 Working trot — left and right	10				
3 Collected trot – left and right	10				
4 Lengthening /extension of trot	10				
5 Transitions	10				
6 Trot Circle — left 15m	10				
7 Trot Circle — right 15m	10				

ARTISTIC IMPRESSION

8	Musicality — suitability of music to theme and rhythm of paces. Flow of composition.	10		X 2	
9	Harmony, Rhythm & Balance	10		X 2	
10	Choreography — use of arena, variety of movements, originality, teamwork if more than I	10		X 2	
11	Turnout-horses/ponies, driver, costume & vehicle	10		X 0	
12	Artistic impression- showmanship, brilliance and impact	10		X 2	
	TOTAL POINTS	160			

To be Deducted: Time Faults for over 6min 30 secs or under 5 mins. Deduct 2 points

CHAPTER SEVEN

ACCREDITATION SCHEME

NOVICE AND ADVANCED

DRIVEN DRESSAGE JUDGES

CHAPTER 7

ACCREDITATION SCHEME

Novice & Advanced Driven Dressage Judges

1. Introduction

- a. ACDS State driven dressage panels are encouraged to implement this scheme.
- b. It is realised that some States may experience difficulties in implementing the Advanced Driven Dressage Judges Accreditation.
- c. ACDS recommends that State driven dressage panels adhere to the scheme for novice and advanced driven dressage judges.
- d. Horses are graded as Open and Novice in combined driving events. Judges are accredited by the ACDS as Advanced (qualified to judge opens, multiples and novices) or Novice (qualified to judge singles and novice multiples).
- e. Candidate novice judges or novice judges qualified to be upgraded to advanced judges may do so in any State, regardless of their State of residence.
- f. Accredited judges must be members of the ACDS – minimum of ACDS Officials membership.

2. Driven Dressage Judge Assessors

- a. Suitable assessors will be advanced driven dressage judges of at least five years standing, with current judging at advanced level, coach educators, judges with training/assessment accreditation with an external organisation, with the proviso they have driven dressage experience. Assessors will be appointed by the Federal Council, on the recommendation of State panels or the NDDC. Assessors are appointed for a two year term, subject to review and re-appointment.
- b. Assessors will:
 - (1) evaluate/correct candidate judge's theory exams,
 - (2) evaluate candidate driven dressage practical judging at schools,
 - (3) evaluate judging of candidates at competitions prior to completing accreditation, and
 - (4) determine candidate's recommended pass or fail regardless of candidate's State of residence.
- c. Assessors recommend a Pass or Fail for all novice or advanced candidate judges.

3. Novice Driven Dressage Judges

- a. Candidates must apply to their State Branch secretary or driven dressage panel for the Application Forms (see Annexe A to this chapter). The completed form must be forwarded by applicants to the State panel prior to attending a school. Candidates are encouraged to keep a record (log book) of driven dressage judging experience, even prior to any accreditation. Such experience should include event date, test, number of entries judged, and preferably signed by the head judge.
- b. People wishing to qualify for acceptance as an ACDS candidate novice driven dressage judge may find it advantageous to:
 - have had experience as a judge's penciller or observer (ridden or driven)
 - understand FEI Rules For Driving with Australian variations.
 - have driving experience, or at least a close association with driving.

EA ridden dressage judges of E level, preliminary/novice, and D level, elementary, and pony club dressage judges must apply for candidate status on the recognised ACDS application form and fulfil all novice training requirements. (Exceptions: See Special Recommendations for top level ridden dressage judges and qualified overseas driven dressage judges later in this chapter.)

- c. Candidate novice driven dressage judges must attend two driven dressage judges' schools or workshops covering:
 - dressage theory and practical judging of minimum of 10 complete tests under supervision, with discussion;
 - Current FEI Rules for Driving with ACDS Variations;
 - Practical judging of presentation on the move if possible.
- d. It may not always be practical for candidate judges to judge a minimum of ten complete driven dressage tests at schools. It is recommended that candidate judges be appointed as learner judges at events to gain a more varied experience. Such appointments may be assessed by the other judges (examiner or advanced dressage judge) at that event.
- e. When reviewing the novice candidate judge's score sheet, a driven dressage assessor must be in attendance and check on the constructive nature of comments. For the purpose of assessment, comments must be given for all movements and scores awarded.
- f. During a school or at a later date, but prior to undertaking practical judging, a written assessment (not necessarily under supervision) of approximately one hour's duration must be attempted, covering theory and driving rules. In keeping with current educational practice, the assessment will be open-book and can be undertaken at home. A minimum mark of 80% is required to pass the exam.
- g. Several alternative papers for candidate novice judges are available from the National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator. Panels may approve an oral assessment, however these are

not recommended. An approved oral assessment must be recorded on tape and a copy given to the assessor and candidate judge.

- h. If candidate judges fail the novice accreditation, the driven dressage assessor will determine the required procedure, e.g. an assessment (written or oral) and/or further supervised judging, rejection due to general inexperience (for an allocated time for further training) or unsuitability. The candidate must be advised in person and in writing of the reasons for the decision.
- i. Names of successful candidate novice judges will be forwarded to the State Branch, where the candidate was assessed, for approval, and then to the ACDS Federal Council for ratification. They will automatically be placed on the ACDS Dressage Judges List.
- j. Successful novice candidates are encouraged to judge open and intermediate tests (including multiples) as a side judge in an official capacity with an advanced judge at C.
- k. A novice judge, prior to becoming an advanced judge, should have:
 - judged a minimum of 20 single novice or open competitors within combined driving or specific driven dressage classes within a two year period;
 - accompanied an advanced judge while they are judging (as an observer or penciller);
 - recorded this information in the novice judge's log book, detailing the name and date of the event, role of the novice judge, class attended or judged and test used, together with the signature of the head judge of the event.

4. Advanced Driven Dressage Judges

- a. Candidates must apply to a State Branch secretary or State driven dressage panel for an application form. The completed application form and log book (which must contain all the previously mentioned details) should be forwarded by applicants to the State driven dressage panel for final approval. The log book record is very important. With relatively few dressage competitions, it is possible that novice judges may only gain judging experience intermittently over a long period. This judging experience must be assessed for accreditation prior to the State driven dressage panel approval. Attendance at a multiples school is also assessed, details of which need to be recorded in the log book.
- b. The candidate advanced driven dressage judge must:
 - complete the application form and preferably complete a log book;
 - attend a clinic where examples of multiples are discussed and/or driven;
 - have pencilled for, or observed an advanced judge judging multiples;
 - achieve an 85% pass mark on a written advanced judges exam;
 - complete unofficial judging at a clinic or event;
 - receive instruction from a suitably experienced multiples driver or have suitable personal experience as a driver.

(In the latter two options, a candidate report from involved advanced judges or a multiples driver must be sent to the State driven dressage panel and then to the assessor, to ensure all multiple judging points have been understood.)

- c. Candidates, if they have minimal multiple driving experience, may be given the opportunity to increase their knowledge and judging skills at the school, or equivalent, if possible by sitting with the driver and driving if the situation allows.
- d. A candidate must judge, unofficially, 20 open tests. These tests must include singles and multiples and where an assessor is officiating or by being an official side judge at an event. A minimum of 10 multiples, ideally (but not always possible) made up of a minimum two tandems, two pairs and two teams, should be included in those 10 tests, from one or more events within a two year period.
- e. The assessor will compare their own score sheets with the candidate judges' score sheets for analysis.
- f. If novice judges fail the advanced accreditation, the assessor will determine the required procedure, e.g. a further exam (written or oral) and/or further supervised judging (for an allocated time) or rejection due to general inexperience or unsuitability. The unsuccessful candidate must be advised in person and in writing the reasons for the result.
- g. The names and updated profiles of candidate advanced judges who satisfy the relevant State driven dressage panel assessors will be forwarded to the State Branch for ratification, then to the ACDS Federal Council for final ratification.
- h. Judges are expected to continue ongoing study, which involves reading and writing skills and assisting pencillers.

5. Specific Recommendations

- a. **Currently qualified EA ridden dressage judges**, with or without theoretical or practical experience of judging driving:
 - must become at least an officials member of the ACDS
 - must complete an ACDS application form, obtained from the State secretary or State Driven Dressage Convenor
 - must have completed the driven dressage novice and advanced judges written assessment
 - may be required to attend a workshop in driven dressage judging for singles and/or multiples and possibly be required to judge designated tests unofficially, or at a graded or ungraded event
 - receive instruction from a suitably experienced multiples driver and/or drive a multiple or sit beside a driver.
- b. **Overseas Driven Dressage Judges (resident in Australia)**. FEI driven dressage judges or other overseas driven dressage judges who hold judging qualifications equivalent to novice and/or open/advanced need only supply a personal profile of their experience and a letter confirming their current competency.

6. Notes

- a. To retain driven dressage judge's accreditation, judges must attend a refresher school every three years, depending on the availability of such schools. If judges decline to attend refresher schools with insufficient justification, the State driven dressage panel may remove their name from the judging lists with the approval of the State Branch. Judges who have not attended a refresher school within a three year period should not be appointed as President of the Jury or Head Judge at any competition. However, judges may apply for leave of absence and be reinstated as determined by the State driven dressage panels provided they are current members of the ACDS.

Annex A to Chapter 7

AUSTRALIAN CARRIAGE DRIVING SOCIETY INC. DRESSAGE JUDGES ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

NOVICE AND ADVANCED JUDGES

1. Candidates must be at least an ACDS Officials member.
2. Candidates must complete the appropriate application form - Annex B for novice, Annex C for advanced
3. Forms are to be forwarded to the State Dressage Convenor prior to attending a workshop.
4. Candidates are encouraged to keep a log book of judging experience, preferably signed and forwarded to the State Dressage Panel.

<u>NOVICE</u>	<u>ADVANCED</u>
1. Experience as a ridden or driven judge's penciller or observer.	1. As a novice judge will have judged at least 20 single novice or advanced competitors within a two year period.
2. Understand the current Rules for Driving with ACDS Variations.	2. Accompany an advanced judge as an observer or penciller.
3. Have had driven experience or close association with driving.	3. Record information in log book - clinics and judging experience.
4. Consideration will be given to ridden judges (EA, Pony Club)	4. Attend a clinic where examples of multiples are discussed and judged or driven.
5. Must attend two driven dressage workshops/clinics	5. Pass a written assessment (open book).
6. Learner judging at an event or driven dressage competition day, if possible.	6. Judge unofficially at a clinic or event.
7. Pass a written assessment (open book).	7. If possible, receive instruction from a suitably experienced multiples driver or have relevant personal experience as a driver.
8. Judge unofficially a minimum of 10 dressage tests together with an assessor.	8. Unofficially judge 20 tests including singles and multiples where an assessor is officiating or be an official judge at an event.

Annex B to Chapter 7

AUSTRALIAN CARRIAGE DRIVING SOCIETY INC. CANDIDATE DRESSAGE JUDGE (NOVICE) APPLICATION FORM

(to be forwarded to the State Driven Dressage Convenor)

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

MR/MRS/MS _____ GIVEN NAME _____

ACDS CLUB: _____ MEMBERSHIP NO: _____ AGE (if under 21) _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ FACSIMILE: _____

EMAIL: _____

2. Evidence you can provide to support your application (indicate what evidence/experience you have relevant to this application e.g. ridden dressage judging, pencilling for ridden/driven judge)

(if space insufficient, provide additional details on a separate sheet)

3. Supporting information – relevant work/life experience (e.g. driving, competing, instructing etc)

CHAPTER EIGHT

RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL DRIVEN DRESSAGE CO-ORDINATOR AND STATE DRIVEN DRESSAGE PANELS

CHAPTER 8

RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL DRIVEN DRESSAGE CO-ORDINATOR AND STATE DRIVEN DRESSAGE PANELS

1. National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator

- a. The ACDS National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator (NDDC) is appointed by the ACDS Federal Council on an annual basis, following a call for Expressions of Interest for the position.
- b. The NDDC must be an advanced dressage judge.
- c. The responsibilities of the position are:
 - (1) Ensure State driven dressage panels are established and operating in each State and that these panels adopt the driven dressage tests and other criteria provided by the Federal Council.
 - (2) Stimulate co-ordination and communication between State panels.
 - (3) Co-ordinate a uniform standard of:
 - (a) driven dressage judging within combined driving and specific driven dressage events; and
 - (b) training and accreditation of driven dressage judges - distributing candidate judge's exams and other related material to State judges schools.
 - (4) Encourage driven dressage education of horse and driver.
 - (5) Research and acquire recorded and written material for instruction (funds may be available from the Federal Council).
 - (6) Be aware of international trends and rules.
 - (7) Be alert to any future needs to alter the ACDS Driven Dressage Manual. Rule changes and recommendations are to be referred to the Federal Council for consideration and endorsement before they are implemented.
 - (8) Research new Australian driven dressage tests, graded for various levels of training. Standardise the score/comments sheets and wording of the tests.
 - (9) Maintain a comprehensive register of all novice and advanced judges, assessors and international judges, from State driven dressage panel records.

- (10) Meet with State driven dressage panel chairpersons at the ACDS annual general meeting, as well as via two teleconferences if necessary.
- (11) Arrange, where possible, for a national driven dressage workshop.
- (12) Following discussions with State panels, report majority decisions on all issues, together with own recommendations, to the Federal Council.
- (13) When appropriate, recommend to the Combined Driving Federal Convenor which CD event dressage tests should be used at all levels.

2. State Driven Dressage Panels

- a. All State driven dressage panels are to work in accordance with the principles laid down by the ACDS Federal Council, National Driven Dressage Rules and Guidelines.
- b. **Panel Membership – Rules and By-laws on the election of panels vary from State to State**
 - (1) State driven dressage panels will be elected annually in each State by the State ACDS Branch. These panels should consist of at least five ACDS members.
 - (2) Nominations to the State Branch are to be taken from individual members.
 - (3) State Branches will further elect panel members, the chairperson of the panels may be elected by the State Branch or by the panel members (constitutions vary between States) and preferably an advanced judge.
 - (4) Any four members of the panel will constitute a meeting quorum. Panel members have equal voting rights.
 - (5) If panels do not have full membership or cannot raise a quorum at meetings, their minutes should still be recorded.
 - (6) A panel member is to be a current ACDS member, preferably with driving experience and/or a currently qualified driven dressage judge.
 - (7) The panel convenor is to be an advanced driven dressage judge (unless a person with this accreditation is not available).
- c. **Specific Role Of Convenor** (or temporary delegated panel member). The convenors responsibilities are as follows:
 - (1) Convene meetings and determine agenda.
 - (2) Record minutes and present same at State Branch meetings.
 - (3) Attend State combined driving committee meetings where applicable.
 - (4) Present an annual report to the State Branch annual general meeting.

- (5) Forward the annual report to the National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator, for presentation to the ACDS annual general meeting.
 - (6) Maintain close communication with the National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator with reference to State activities, problem resolutions, tests, new ideas, etc.
 - (7) Request candidate judge's exams from the National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator when appropriate.
 - (8) Encourage distribution of the ACDS Driven Dressage Manual.
 - (9) Publicity - publicising the value of dressage via State Branch newsletters or a state driven dressage newsletter. Assist the National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator with articles for the ACDS Journal.
 - (10) Refer to assessors if clarification/explanation on certain issues is required.
- d. **General Role And Functions Of Panels.** The role and functions of the State driven dressage panel include:
- (1) Assist the State driven dressage panel convenor as required.
 - (2) Educate on Ground Jury responsibilities in conjunction with combined driving committees.
 - (3) Maintain a register of candidate and accredited state novice and advanced judges and their involvement in an official capacity at competitions - forward updated information to the National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator.
 - (4) Assist with finding judges for event organisers in emergencies (perhaps even non-accredited driven dressage judges).
 - (5) Advise event organisers, clubs, combined driving committees, etc, on appropriate driven dressage tests to be employed.
 - (6) Encourage driven dressage competition within the State.
 - (7) In conjunction with the National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator, consider any future needs to improve or modify the ACDS Driven Dressage Manual, for example driven dressage tests or judging accreditation.
 - (8) Selection of school instructors.
 - (9) Recommendation of suitable examiners to the National Driven Dressage Co-ordinator.
- e. **Training Schools, Clinics And Workshops**
- (1) Schools, clinics and workshops are to be organised for ACDS members, accredited judges and candidate judges (which may double as judges' refresher schools).

- (2) School instructors are to be chosen by State panels.
- f. State driven dressage panels are to encourage and possibly assist clubs to conduct instructional driven dressage days for judges, drivers, interested members and the public.
- g. State driven dressage panels specifically assist clubs to encourage the driving of Australian dressage tests and the conduct of specific dressage competitions.