

# FACT SHEET



## Role of Dressage Stewards at events

### "Help, Prevent, Intervene"

Protecting the public image of our Sport has become most important over the last few years and as organisers and competitors we need to ensure that all involved in the sport are safe and respect the welfare of the horse at all times.

Stewards are responsible for ensuring the welfare of horses is upheld, that the rules for the event are adhered to and that events are conducted safely.

In this role they are expected to supervise training and warm-up areas, stables and other areas where horses are held, ridden or treated as well as the field of play for competitions.

### What is Stewarding?

It is supervision at Dressage events by trained individuals to ensure:

- the welfare of the horse is paramount
  - a level playing field is provided for all participating athletes
- Stewards play a vital role in ensuring the ongoing good reputation of our sport and safety of horses, competitors & the public

### The purpose of Stewarding is:

- To protect the welfare of the horse and ensure fair play;
- To support the Organising Committee (OC) in the successful running of the event in line with the Current EA/FEI rules and regulations.
- To help and assist competitors in their endeavour to compete at their best in a safe and fair environment
- To ensure our good public image is upheld
- To supervise competition, training and warm-up areas, stables and other areas where horses are held.
- To assist competitors in meeting approved regulations for saddlery, bridles, bits, spurs & logos etc.

Stewards are not Policemen!

- They are there to help and assist competitors reach their goals

Prevention is always the better option!

- Stewards are there to prevent any situation that may develop which could be detrimental to competitors or the sport as a whole.

### Stewards and other Officials are authorised to:

- Intervene in order to prevent any abuse of horses by riders, grooms, owners or any other person.
- Intervene in order to prevent any contravention of the common principles of behaviour, fairness and accepted standards of sportsmanship

### Gear Stewards are compulsory at all Dressage Events.

What events are Warm-up and Exercise arena Stewards required?

Regular Club Events including Official & Competitive – Desirable

Regional & Major Club Championships – Highly Desirable

State Championships – Compulsory

National Championships & CDI's – Compulsory



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### How do you become a Dressage Steward?

Contact the EA National Office to register your interest and receive information on available courses.

**Steward Accreditation & Education:** Accredited Stewards in Australia consist of:-

	Dressage Steward General
	FEI Level 3
	FEI Level 2
	FEI Level 1
	National Steward
	Candidate Steward



### Who do you contact for confirmation on the legality of Equipment?

In the first instance contact the EA National Office

Competitors, Organising Committee & Stewards should read and understand the rules relating to:

Current EA Dressage rules and in particular

- 1.2 Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse
- 1.3 Abuse of the Horse
- 1.4 Bleeding
- 1.6 Anti-doping and Medication control
- Section 2 Dress, saddlery and Equipment
- 13.7 Dress, Saddlery and Equipment for Para Equestrian Competitors
- Annex F Brief Notes regarding Judging (dressage) for Eventing
- Annex H FEI Guidelines for Pre and Post Competition training techniques

For further information on Dressage Stewarding in Australia Contact:

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Equestrian Australia National Office at [info@equestrian.org.au](mailto:info@equestrian.org.au)



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