



# **Australian Preliminary and Pre-Novice**

## **Compulsories 2013**

### **Description and Guidelines**



Preliminary compulsories are performed in walk  
Pre-novice compulsories are performed in canter

*Please note where specific deductions are given, these are in addition to the standard deductions listed at the end of the document.*

## **DESCRIPTIONS**

### **Vault – on**

***From the FEI Rules:***

**Essence:**

Harmony with the horse  
Height and position of the centre of gravity

**Mechanics:**

The vault-on leads to the front ways seat on the horse. It comprises 4 phases:

1. Jump phase
2. Swing phase
3. Stem phase
4. Lowering phase

After jumping on both feet, the outer leg (closest to the horse) swings up immediately, as high as possible, lifting the pelvis higher than the head, while the inner leg remains stretched down. The shoulders and hips are parallel to the shoulder axis of the horse. When the pelvis is at the highest possible point, the vaulter lowers the stretched raised leg and lands softly, erect and centred in the seat astride with the upper body vertical.  
*(see FEI guidelines for basic scores)*

For mounts in preliminary classes, vaulters should have assistance.

For mounts in pre-novice, use of assistance should be judged according to the level and capability of horse and vaulter.

No deductions will be made for assistance in either level.

### **Basic Seat**

***From the FEI Rules:***

**Essence:**

Harmony with the horse  
Seat, Balance and Posture

**Mechanics:**

The vaulter sits astride, erect and centred directly behind the surcingle, with legs down and in contact with the horse, forming a straight vertical line through the shoulder, hip and heel.

The vaulter's shoulders are parallel to the grips. The arms are extended and stretched outward along the frontal plane with the tips of the fingers at eye level. Legs are down and the front of the knees, ankles and toes form a straight line facing nearly forward. Upon completion of the static exercise, the vaulter takes the grips with both hands simultaneously.

The arms should be held stretched for four strides.

### **Half Flag**

**Essence:**

Harmony with the horse  
Balance and Suppleness (particularly shoulder and hip)

**Mechanics:**

From seat astride, the vaulter comes to the kneel, with both legs simultaneously, landing with the legs diagonally across the horse's back. The left knee is left of the horse's spine and the left toes are right of the horse's spine. The lower leg remains in permanent contact with the horse's back, taking an equal weight spread from knee to toe.

Head remains up facing forward. The outside leg is raised and stretched out behind the vaulter. (at least above the Vaulter's hip height, ideally toes in line with the level of the top of the head). Both hands hold the grips. The shoulders are directly above the grips and hips and shoulders are parallel to the ground. There is an even arc in the vaulter's body through to the foot. Upon completion of the static exercise, the lowers the outside leg to rest on the horse's hindquarters.

## Plank

### **Essence:**

Harmony with the horse

Straightness

Tension

(from flag, outside raised leg lowered to horse's rump)

### **Mechanics:**

Both legs are extended and together. Position held 4 strides. A straight line should run from head in neutral position, through body to toes. Arms should be straight with the majority of the weight on the grips. Hands must be on the top of the grips.

From this position the hips are pulled up and forward with the legs sliding along the horse, aiming for the hips to be nearly above the handles, then sliding softly into seat astride.

### **Basic scores/deductions -**

Arched back with lack of abdominal tension - 5.0 maximum score

Hands in position other than defined – deduction of 2.0

Lack of hip elevation in slide to seat - Deduction of up to 1.0

Loss of control/hard landing on coming into seat – Deduction up to 2.0

Legs not together – deduction up to 1.0

## Inside Seat

### **Essence:**

Harmony with the horse

Seat, balance, Posture, Scope and Timing

### **Mechanics:**

From seat astride the vaulter lifts the outside leg over the handles to the inside in a semi circle, as in a ¼ mill (as described in the mill in FEI judges guidelines). This motion should take approximately four strides. Once facing the inside the vaulter releases and extended the rear arm toward the rear of the horse, raised to approximately eye level. (half the basic seat position). The vaulters body and both legs should be facing directly to the inside. This should be held for four strides.

The rear hand then retakes the grips and carries to leg back to seat astride (as for mill) once again using around four strides.

### **Basic scores/deductions -**

Poor form in mill phase of exercises – up to 2 points deduction. This may take into account poor scope, loss of seat, loss of posture, and significant deviations from timing.

Not facing directly to inside or outside – up to 2 points deduction.

Unstable resting legs – up to 2 points deduction

## Outside seat

### **Essence:**

Harmony with the horse

Seat, balance, Posture, Scope and Timing

### **Mechanics:**

From seat astride the vaulter lifts the inside leg over the handles to the outside in a semi circle, as in a reverse ¼ mill (as described in the mill in FEI judges guidelines). This motion should take approximately four strides. Once facing the outside the vaulter releases and extended the rear arm toward the rear of the horse, raised to approximately eye level. (half the basic seat position). The vaulters body and both legs should be facing directly to the outside. This should be held for four strides.

The rear hand then retakes the grips and carries to leg back to seat astride (as for mill) once again using around four strides.

**Basic scores/deductions:**

Poor form in mill phase of exercises – up to 2 points deduction. This may take into account poor scope, loss of seat, loss of posture, and significant deviations from timing.

Not facing directly to inside or outside – up to 2 points deduction.

Unstable resting legs – up to 2 points deduction

**Free Kneel****Essence:**

Harmony with the horse

Balance and posture

**Mechanics:**

From seat astride the vaulter swings in time with the horse to land lightly on the lower legs in a kneeling position.

Weight is spread evenly across the lower legs. The arms are then lifted from the handles to the side at eye level.

The vaulters centre of gravity should be centred over the lower legs with the upper body in upright position.

Position held for four strides. Arms are then lowered to the handles. Weight is taken onto the hands and the vaulter slides softly into seat astride.

**Basic scores/deductions:**

Weight not spread over lower leg – 2.0 deduction

**Dismount to the inside****Essence:**

Harmony with the horse

Scope and timing

**Mechanics:**

The vaulter performs a ¼ mill by carrying the stretched outside leg over the handles to the inside, in a high wide arc to inside seat. Then with closed legs and stretched hips the vaulter pushes against the grips upwards and away from the horse. The vaulter releases the grips and lands with nearly closed legs and continues in the same direction as the horse.

**Basic scores/deductions:**

Held seat between mill and dismount phase – up to 2.0 deduction

Sliding down the horse, no clearance demonstrated – up to 2.0 deduction.

**DEDUCTIONS IN THE COMPULSORIES (from the Australian Vaulting Rules)**

Please Note: Letters are used by judges as abbreviations for each deduction and are recorded on the score sheet.

Deduction of 1 point:

**C** For each stride less than four in the Compulsory exercises: Basic Seat, Flag and

Stand: the strides are counted from when the required exercise is displayed.

**T** For each rhythm failure in the Mill.

**K** For each failure to kneel before the Flag and Stand.

**N** For leaning on the horse's neck with the hand without loss of form in Flag.

**G** For each landing (Dismount) other than on both feet only.

Deduction of 2 points:

**R** - Repeating a compulsory exercise without leaving the horse

- Incorrect order of exercises followed by the correct order without leaving the horse

- If the horse does not canter (e.g. falls into trot) during an exercise or any part of the exercise, the vaulter may repeat the whole exercise for a score and will be penalized with a deduction of 2 points for repetition.

- A deduction of up to 2 points off the vault-on score for Intermediate classes for assisted mounts.

**F** for a fall between two exercises (the deduction will be scored for the previous exercise).

**Score of 0:**

- For each exercise shown by a vaulter in the wrong order and not corrected.
- For coming off the horse during a compulsory exercise without the prescribed dismount.
- For repeating a compulsory exercise twice.
- For retaking the grips twice.
- For each exercise not performed in the gait of the competition and not repeated.
- For turning the Scissors in the wrong direction.
- In Squad competition for each compulsory exercise performed after the time limit (an exercise having been started just before the time limit will still be scored)