

Winter greetings everyone!

Welcome to another Dressage Tasmania newsletter.
Brrr . . . frost, ice, short days and long coats (equine and human!) Welcome to Winter in Tassie.

If you would like to communicate with the Dressage Tasmania Committee, please email:

dressagetasmania@outlook.com.

Decision-making is achieved through meetings which usually occur monthly. Your Zone committee is your first contact point (refer contact details below).

It's that time Annual General Meeting time of the year!

Please consider supporting your Zone and offering to assist our amazing volunteers. We're all in this together!

Zone contacts *(Note dates of AGMs)*

North AGM scheduled for 14 July 2024

Co-Chairs – Judy Atkinson and Sue Lamont

Secretary – Megan Whalley

Minute Secretary – Alana Fazackerley

Treasurer – Jayne Blyth

General committee: Judy Harding, Teresa Darcy, Jess Van der Vlist, Maryann Smink.

Email address: dressagenorth@gmail.com

North West AGM scheduled for 27 July 2024

Chair – Penelope Moore

Vice Chair – Linda Smink

Secretary – Jodi Towns

Treasurer – Annika Lockwood

General committee: Rose Kemp, Paul Kemp, Penny Higgins, Caitlin Radford, Kenya Broad, Alison Hall.

Email address: nwdressagezone@gmail.com

South AGM scheduled for 30 August 2024

Chair – Suanne Lawrence

Vice Chair – Gill von Bertouch

Treasurer – Katherine Drake

Minutes Secretary – Jill Suban

General Committee: Sue McDermott, Sophie McDermott, Tammy Cunningham, Jenny Wilson, Chloe Amos, Jill Schwartz, Heather Stewart.

Email address: dressagetassouth@gmail.com



Dressage Tasmania – State Dressage Authority

AGM scheduled for 12 July 2024 – RSVP's due by 5 July 2024

President

Judy Atkinson

Vice President

Sue Lamont

Secretary

Alana Fazackerley

Treasurer

Alison Hall

Committee

Penelope Moore,

Heather Stewart, Tania Hay

Seasonal quote:

Riding with a tense topline is like driving with the handbrake on. (Brett Parbery)



State Dressage Authority Annual General Meeting

Friday 12 July 2024, 7pm via Zoom – Please RSVP to dressagetasmania@gmail.com with your name by 5 July 2024 to be included in the meeting. Nominations for the SDA committee closed on 28 May 2024.

SDA Committee nominations:

Due to the number of nominations received for the SDA, Equestrian Tasmania will conduct an election with current Dressage Tasmania members to determine 7 out of 9 committee members. Please watch your emails for notification from Equestrian Tasmania and promptly submit your vote.

NOTE: Membership expires 30 June each calendar year.

The next step . . .

This is an exciting time of the year when AGMs are being held by Zones and the State Dressage Authority. It's your chance to take a step up and be involved at the coalface. We like to ride at events, but we also need volunteers to run them – otherwise they are unable to go ahead.

We need your input into ideas and suggestions for events – both ridden and unriden. This is your opportunity to have a say in how we do dressage in Tassie.

We are fortunate to have three excellent Zone committees with people open and welcoming to others.

Go on . . . take the next step . . . your skills are sorely needed!

2024 TasRacing Cavalor State Dressage Championships

Congratulations to the Southern Zone for organising and running the 2024 Champs at the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre in Lauderdale on 2 and 3 March 2024. Organising Champs is no mean feat with Zones taking turns each year in coordinating the statewide event. The sacrifice of time and hard effort by individuals, who give up a lot to provide an event of this calibre, is very much appreciated. The success of the event is testimony to all the hard work. A big thank you to the Southern Zone and the Champs Committee.

Congratulations to **all** who qualified and competed, and those who achieved Championships.

Official

Preliminary

Linda Smink and Clearview Springsteen

Reserve: Celia Conder-Lang and Playin in Gold

Pony Preliminary

Safira Crook and Carollin Dragonfly

Reserve: Sabrina Jackson and Charming Blueberry

Novice

Lydia Jackson and Faberge R

Reserve: Celia Conder-Lang and Feldale Ana

Pony Novice

Sabrina Jackson and Charming Blueberry

Reserve: Leanne Moore and Larilla Mastermind

Elementary

Lydia Jackson and Faberge R

Reserve: Kenya Broad and Wolter Van Gelder

Pony Elementary

Uta Gonsior and Autumn Angel

Reserve: Sharen White and Evergreen Hullabaloo

Medium

Amy Griffiths and Debussy

Reserve: Stephanie Temple and Clearview Verdict

Advanced

Breanna Turner and Carrera

Reserve: Amy Griffiths and Debussy

Prix St Georges

Breanna Turner and Carrera

FEI Para Grade V Grand Prix

Alison Hall and Episodes

Participant

Preliminary

Jessica Allwright and Chester

Reserve Nicky Bransden and Archie

Novice

Alison Henderson and Cleo Rose

Reserve: Jody Rybarczyk and Oscar De Le Renta BD

Alison Henderson and Cleo Rose – 2024 Novice Participant and Baroque Champions!

Hi, for those who don't know me, my name is Alison Henderson and I ride a little Spanish Warmblood mare called Cleo Rose. I bought Cleo as a 2-year-old filly and broke her in between having a child of my own. She has successfully competed in the dressage Young Horse classes and is now an 8-year-old grown-up mare (although she still finds other horses and wind scary!)

Championships 2022 was our last competition for nearly two years due to some injuries I had and an inability to ride with a very busy toddler at home. I couldn't find a balance of being a mum and riding, so I had to step back for a bit.

Which made it even more exciting to come back this season with Cleo and qualify for Elementary at the 2024 TasRacing – Cavalor Tasmania Dressage Championships. We had a short season from October – December and limited dates I could ride due to family commitments and the availability of babysitters. But I love competing and it's such a thrill to be back in the arena!

Cleo then had a month off during school holidays over Christmas, I brought her back in four weeks out from Champs and worked really hard on keeping her mind and body strong and confident.



I love competing and it's such a thrill to be back in the arena!

The Dressage Championships were at TEC this year. We went down Friday night for arena familiarisation and to give Cleo time to settle and relax. Saturday rolled around with two Elementary tests. Cleo coped amazingly with the atmosphere, and I came out of each test feeling that she tried her little heart out and was with me for every movement. I'm proud to say she placed well in both her tests amongst a very competitive field.

Sunday, I had entered Participant Novice, and did Hobart put on a show with the weather . . . 70km/hr winds with 110km/hr gusts! I thought about scratching multiple times for our safety. I was too scared to open the back doors of my float for fear they would get ripped off in the wind!



Cleo, who hates the wind at the best of times was like a kite when I first got on. I spent the first 20 minutes just trying to keep her feet on the ground warming up. But she finally settled and amazingly pulled out two more fantastic tests to win Participant Novice overall Champion.

I loved how welcoming other competitors and officials were in Hobart. It was a really well-organised competition having the added pressure for me of riding, sponsoring and running a trade stall with our family business this year. The encouragement and support I received was so valued. Congratulations to a very hard-working Champs Committee. It was a privilege to be



judged by three mainland judges in each ring. And congratulations to all the riders who worked so hard to qualify, enter and prepare their horses for the biggest Tasmanian dressage competition of the year.

Brucey's Road to Championships

. . . by Linda Smink

From the moment I met Clearview "Brucey" Springsteen four years ago, it was clear that he was indeed "Born to Run" and destined to be a dressage horse. With less than 12 months of becoming a ridden horse under his belt, Brucey was keen to take centre stage at the 2024 Dressage Championships and deliver performances that were nothing short of a "Brilliant Disguise!"

Brucey was born and bred in Longford by Clearview Performance Horses with Judy Atkinson focusing hard on producing modern versatile warmbloods with exceptional trainability, temperament, and movement. I think this shines through with all the amazing horses she has bred, especially in Brucey, and her passion to continue to breed talented amateur horses is a credit to her.



. . . performances that were nothing short of a "Brilliant Disguise!"

The road to Championships was steep and winding, with Brucey ensuring I stay grounded and not allowing me to get too stuck up in the clouds by letting me hit the "Dust" several times, even at my first competition on him. Getting older sucks and it gets harder to bounce back, and I needed a "Tougher Than the Rest" attitude to realise that he was special.

With limited outings we decided that Brucey was ready for this "Leap of Faith," and Judy Atkinson and my support crew were just really looking to having a nice weekend away. Brucey handled the travel and overnight accommodation well and took the whole weekend in his stride. His performances were nothing short of "Glory Days," as he secured success in the Preliminary and Young Horse Divisions.

Congratulations to all the riders and supporters who made the Dressage Championships the great event it was. It takes a huge effort to put together such an event and the Southern Zone did a fantastic job. I look forward to my journey with Brucey and seeing him continue to "Rise Up" and reach new heights in the world of dressage.

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Footnote: Linda and Brucey took out the 2024 Preliminary and Young Horse Championships.

State Dressage Squad/s

Proposals are invited from those who would like to coordinate/manage a State Dressage Squad and/or State Junior Dressage Squad for 2024-25.

Please email an expression of interest including proposal outlining planned process for the 2024-25 season to dressagetasmania@outlook.com



Stewards

You would be aware that from 1 January 2024 it has been mandatory for an accredited EA Steward to be present at all Dressage Tasmania competitions.

Congratulations to those newly accredited. We now have a number of accredited Level 1 and 2 Stewards in Tassie. You can search for one [here](#).

Whilst it is greatly appreciated that some have attended practical and theory training, some are yet to complete all work required to attain accreditation. If you have completed the training you are encouraged to complete remaining work so we can expand on the great choice of Stewards we already have.

If you have an interest in becoming an accredited EA Level 1 Steward, more training will be scheduled in the future. Express an interest via the Dressage Tasmania email.

Have you thought about being a Writer?

Writing, or pencilling (or stylusing or tableting!!) is essential for competitions and we have some amazing writers who consistently give up their time – but new writers are sorely needed. It's amazing how much you can learn by listening to a judge comment and score – and it's not hard.

Live scoring through Nominate makes the task easy, using tablets already set up before the competition. It's a case of click and go. There are always backup hard copy test sheets in case of any hiccups.

If you want to know more, or have a go, ask to sit in on a test to see how it's done or take 10 minutes at lunch time to go through the process with an experienced writer.

Email your Zone to express an interest – go on, do it!



EQUESTRIAN TASMANIA
Ball & Awards
NIGHT
22 JUNE
Country Club
Launceston
Tickets available now via ETas web site

DRESSAGE TASMANIA EVENTING TASMANIA EQUESTRIAN TASMANIA JUMPING TASMANIA SHOW HORSE TASMANIA



northern zone
dressageTAS
CLEARVIEW
PERFORMANCE HORSES
WINTER Series 2024

The Series consists of three Development Days followed by a Competition and is aimed at further developing horses and riders, ready for an exciting 2024/25 dressage season. Riders of every level are welcome, from those starting out to members aiming for interstate competition.

Highly experienced judges will be available at each Development Day to assist you achieve your goals.

Fantastic prizes kindly donated by Clearview Performance Horses will be on offer for the most improved over the Series.

To be eligible for Series' prizes riders must be a Dressage Tasmania member and attend at least two Development Days and the Competition.

Dates:

- Development Day 1 – Completed
- Development Day 2 – Completed
- Development Day 3 – Sunday, 25 August 2024
– Woodend Equestrian Centre
- Competition – Saturday and Sunday, 14-15 September 2024
– Woodend Equestrian Centre

Enquiries and offers of assistance to dressagenorth@gmail.com

CLEARVIEW
PERFORMANCE HORSES

So, you want to be a dressage judge:

<https://www.tas.equestrian.org.au/dressage/content/judges-information>

<https://www.equestrian.org.au/officials/dressage>

Judging: A Labour of Love . . . by Wendy Asman



“Become an EA Dressage Judge in a Weekend,” read the heading of an ETAS newsletter back in 2019. That weekend marked the beginning of my dressage judging journey. Fast-forward to 2024, I am an E Level dressage judge and an EA Level 1 driving judge, having gained experience judging Pony Club, State Championships, Eventing and Dressage within Tasmania. Last year I accepted invitations for interstate judging in Victoria and NSW.

What an unsuspectingly fulfilling journey judging has been! Offering constructive feedback, guidance and encouragement supports riders and their equine partners, and encourages them to achieve their goals. I have enjoyed the support and comradery of co-judges and sharing detailed

discussions surrounding dressage, marks, and comments over swanky judge’s lunches.

Judging has been an avenue for personal growth. Judging theory has elucidated and clarified my existing knowledge. EA judges are invited to exclusive judge’s workshops, informational seminars, and webinars presented by national and international dressage experts. These have added an even deeper level of knowledge.

The opportunity to travel interstate is especially valuable, as it affords experience with a greater field of horses who perform through all levels including FEI. The practice of judging also demands quick and acute decisiveness. Decision-making has now become a bit of a superpower in life!

Being a judge does not come without its challenges. Judges often sit hours on end and their honesty is not always appreciated. Sometimes judges must make difficult decisions. The day rests on the balance of your integrity and courage is a cost of entry.

Mostly, judging is a labour of love: a love for the horse, the sport, and the art. For anyone who is passionate about dressage and horses, the door is open wide through the EA pathways. You are invited in. Judging could be your next unexpected passion!?

*The day rests on
the balance of
your integrity
and courage is a
cost of entry.*

Do you have ideas about how to increase participation in dressage?

Dressage Tasmania would like more people to enjoy the sport in Tasmania – more people attending development, training, come and try and competitions around the state – and more people knowing about, coming to watch and supporting our riders.

Sometimes dressage is seen as a high performance (Olympic) sport for a select few, but we believe dressage can be enjoyable for everyone.

Our three Zones run events around the state and are administered by generous volunteers who sacrifice their time so that we can all enjoy the sport – **and they want to hear from you.**

All members are invited to have input and be involved. No matter how small or large a contribution, your opinions are sorely needed to keep our sport alive. If you have **any** ideas on how we can get the dressage message out; improvements, additional events we could try, what you and your horse would enjoy . . . **please let your Zone know or email Dressage Tasmania. Our sport is for everyone – let’s spread the news!**

Australian Sports Commission – Play Well Participation Strategy

Sport is a powerful vehicle for personal growth, community building and positive social change.

Australia's Sport Participation Strategy has been co-designed with the sporting sector, where individuals of all ages, backgrounds, gender, and abilities can come together to access the benefits of sport.

Everyone has a right to participate in sport and through this strategy safe, welcoming, inclusive and fun sporting environments and experiences can be created.

Together we can change the face of sport and help more Australians play well.

View the strategy [here](#).

Australian Institute of Sport Community Coaching - Essential Skills

Free online training is available to everyone who aspires to be a coach or official.

The Community Coaching – Essential Skills course has replaced the General Principles course.

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) has partnered with Sport Integrity Australia to incorporate important safeguarding content in the course. The Safeguarding Sport module educates coaches on how to protect themselves and their participants, by helping coaches understand how to act, speak and behave in line with current community expectations.

More information and to access online modules, can be found [here](#).

For dressage-specific training and support for coaches, please contact Equestrian Australia [here](#).

Committee Leadership in Clubs workshops (19th August – 21st August)

Clubs Tasmania are facilitating workshops designed to strengthen committees, with talking points including knowing your roles within a committee, dealing with conflicts, planning, financials, setting goals and objectives and building a strong committee.

The workshops are free and open to everyone.

Register [here](#)

TasRacing Grant program

The Racing Animal Welfare Grants Program aims to support projects that improve the welfare of Tasmanian racing animals during and after their racing careers. With a commitment of up to \$100,000 for the 2024-25 grant year, TasRacing seeks to fund initiatives that lead to high-quality welfare outcomes.

Funding categories:

- Animal Health Research: Up to \$20,000 for projects promoting health care and welfare for racing animals.
- Facilities and Equipment: Up to \$10,000 for projects improving facilities or equipment that directly impact animal welfare.
- Initiatives to Enhance Animal Welfare: Up to \$5,000 for projects contributing to enhanced welfare standards.

Eligibility:

- Tasmanian-based registered Not-for-Profit, Charity, Business, or Sole Trader with an ABN or ACN.
- \$20 million public liability insurance.
- Not a government entity, involved in animal mistreatment allegations, or a political organization.

Apply [here](#)



Dressage Tasmania Winter Calendar *(Information as at newsletter distribution date.)*

Please consider contacting your Zone by email to help at an event. Roles range from organising an event to putting letters out and any help would be greatly appreciated.

JUNE			
Date	Venue	Event	Contact
2	TEC	Southern Zone Competition Unofficial Series Round 3 – Final	dressagetassouth@gmail.com
9	WEC	Northern Zone Winter Series Development Day 2	dressagenorth@gmail.com
15	TEC	Southern Zone Training Day	dressagetassouth@gmail.com
30	Thirlstane	NW Zone Training Day	nwdressagezone@gmail.com
JULY			
20	TEC	Southern Zone Training Day	dressagetassouth@gmail.com
AUGUST			
4	TEC	Southern Zone Unofficial Come and Try Day	dressagetassouth@gmail.com
24	TEC	Southern Zone Training Day	dressagetassouth@gmail.com
25	WEC	Northern Zone Winter Series Development Day 3	dressagenorth@gmail.com



Dressage Tasmania events

To access events through Nominate, flag in Nominate to receive email notifications of upcoming events. An email will be sent to you when an event opens.

Access the Dressage Tasmania online calendar [here](#).

Dressage Tasmania membership clarification

Annual membership is to 30 June each year. Twelve and six-monthly memberships are available. If intending to join for a 12-month period, please keep in mind that this will only be from 30 June each year. Various membership categories are available: Senior, Junior, Young Rider, Family, Social, Official etc. To join and for information on cost, access the Dressage Tasmania web site [here](#)

New Gear Check Rule

Rule 4.4 of the EA National Dressage Rules 1 January 2024 states that an Accredited Steward (or approved representative of the Steward) must be appointed to check the Saddlery of each Horse **immediately after it leaves the arena**. The Rule applies to all official dressage competitions and has been introduced for the following reasons:

1. To enable a check for blood after a test is completed
2. To ensure that a rider is not interrupted immediately before their test to do a bit check prior to a horse competing (which is not safe or fair)
3. To prevent horses from becoming agitated whilst waiting for a gear check prior to their test, when they are warmed up and ready to go.

Dressage competitors, please be aware that you will need to ensure that your gear is correct when commencing your test, as incorrect gear could result in elimination after you have finished your test. Please try not to forget to present to the Steward after the test, or this will also result in elimination! A full, clean copy of National Dressage Rules available [here](#).

Equestrian Australia Concussion Guidelines

In line with the Australian Institute of Sport's *Concussion and Brain Health Position Statement 2024* released in February, Equestrian Australia will implement revised stand down periods and return to play protocols effective from **Saturday 16 March 2024**. For more information visit [here](#).

Tips from the experts . . .

Brett Parbery

Coming away from the New South Wales State Championships, I learned that I needed to ride my tests a lot more accurately. I needed to go for a bit more expression. I needed to focus on the details, the halts, the rein backs, the walk, and the pirouettes. I've had this ongoing issue with the changes too. In the weeks leading up, I was just trying to get Johnny not only comfortable in the changes, but just knowing where to put his body, because a lot of the flying changes issues have come about from him blocking his body and him not allowing me to get him set up for the change. I've been really working hard on teaching him, through walk, where to put his body when I'm asking for the set up and as mundane and boring as that sounds, it worked well.

The other thing that I learned was I needed to just sharpen up my test riding and have a lot more clarity in my lines. I needed to be better at my preparations. While I'm riding a movement, I need to think ahead to the movement to prepare as best I can. Mentally I had to rehearse that process a lot more. The more I ride the tests, the more comfortable I feel with them and the more I understand the set ups.

Dr Reiner Klimke

The horse should be happy and going softly with invisible aids. To achieve this the trainer must be very patient and disciplined. The aim is to keep your horse proud so that he accepts you as master. Don't sit on him but influence him. The horse must carry us easily and only then will you achieve self-balance.

The rider who is sitting a little bit forward, who doesn't make himself heavy, is what I like. When I ride, I always try to not make myself heavy and bring the horse down, but to go with the movement and keep light, this is not one of our inventions.

Jessica von Bredow-Werndl

Affection, responsibility and respect for our horses are the prerequisites for our sport. I am shocked when people do not live up to their responsibility towards their horse partner.

When I was four years old I decided to become a vegetarian. Not because I didn't like the meat, but because I love animals. I got my first pony when I was five. She accompanied me through my childhood.

As children, we carry this unconditional love within us that we sometimes forget as adults. Today, when working with the horses, I am again the little girl who wants to dance with horses.

I am not perfect either, I will always be a student of life. I have found my own path that I walk every day, and on which I learn and develop every day.

We are all on the way and it is our common task to take a loving and peaceful path with the animals and to live up to our responsibility.

Every day, unconsciously or consciously, we make decisions that have a significant impact on animal welfare. In times like these, it is important to me to remember: animal protection is an attitude to life that affects all areas of life.

Isabell Werth

The shortening and lengthening of the horse are extremely important for the gymnastic training. Without these elements, the horses become very stiff. The in-hand and piaffe is only a development of this work and must be continued throughout the horse's career.

The canter is more difficult to improve than the trot. However, when a horse gets stronger and learns to work roundly and more through, with the center of gravity farther back, then the canter will also gain automatically in quality. Good and correct gymnastic work always improves the canter.



Ingrid Klimke talks about hind leg development

Posted on February 23, 2023 by The Horse Magazine.

The hindlegs must be energetic under the centre of gravity, that means the hindquarters get much more muscle, the back gets so much stronger, and the horse really shows himself. The horse has to have energy from behind, the motor is the hindlegs.

I don't want to see a spectacular trot, just active hind legs and the movement going over the back to the rider's hand. I like to use the snaffle at home and save the double bridle for the show, but we also have to get the horses used to the double, so we can warm-up in a double at home sometimes.

It is so important that you do a proper warmup and make sure everything is loose and supple, then give a walk break – and then you can start sitting, and say okay, you have stretched down as far as you can, and need. Then I can be very strict and say, okay the poll is the highest point, the nose must be in front of the vertical because what I want is the hind leg engaged underneath.

If the horse is too far down, then where will the hind legs be? We must always think that the hindlegs are sitting, so the horse can be in balance and in its natural self-carriage – natural self-carriage means the more advanced he is, the more schooled he is, the more he can sit on his hocks, the shorter he will look.

Later in the piaffe we will see him higher in the front and lower behind, but for a five-year-old, this is his natural look. He is quite short naturally, he is quite a compact horse and with him you must be sure when you sit on him, that he has freedom in the front to present. If the front is tight, and he is short behind the saddle, then the horse would be totally tight, and the back one day would be blocked because he would be holding himself hollow.



INGRID KLIMKE MASTERCLASS

Equesque has announced that Ingrid Klimke will present a Dressage and Eventing masterclass at the Queensland State Equestrian Centre on Saturday 25 January 2025.

Ingrid is a world renowned competitor and trainer in both of these disciplines having achieved many medals at Olympic Games and World Equestrian Championships. She is looking forward to visiting Australia again and has very fond memories of the Sydney Olympics where she rode for the German Eventing Team.

Tickets will go on sale in July with VIP and General Admission options.

This is a wonderful event to celebrate our sport and learn from one of the greatest multi-disciplinary riders the world has known.

8 training gems from Carl Hester that could transform your dressage scores

Posted on March 31, 2024 by Horse and Hound

Access the link [here](#)

Alan Davies' highlights from his time as Valegro's super-groom

Posted on January 14, 2023 by Horse and Hound

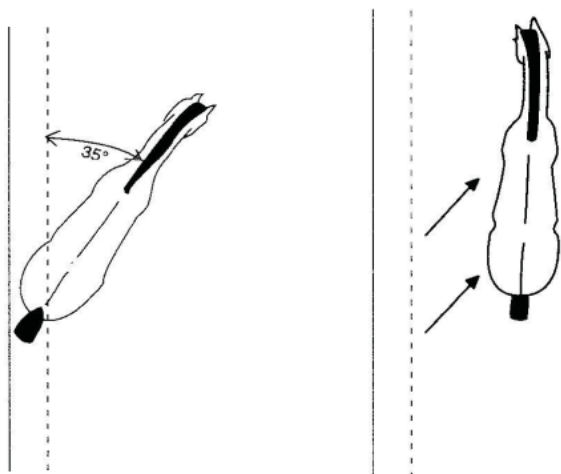
Access the link [here](#)



National Dressage Rules as of 1 January 2024

2.11 Leg-yielding

- the aim of leg-yielding is to demonstrate the suppleness and lateral responsiveness of the horse
- the exercise is performed in working trot
- the horse is almost straight, except for a slight flexion at the poll away from the direction in which it moves, so that the rider is just able to see the eyebrow and nostril on the inside
- the inside legs pass and cross in front of the outside legs
- leg-yielding should be included in the training of the horse before it is ready for collected work
- Later on, together with the more advanced shoulder -in movement, it is the best means of making a horse supple, loose and unconstrained for the benefit of the freedom, elasticity and regularity of its paces and the harmony, lightness and ease of its movements
- leg-yielding can be performed 'on the diagonal', in which case the horse should be as nearly as possible parallel to the long sides of the arena, although the forehand should be slightly in advance of the hindquarters. It can also be performed 'along the wall', in which case the horse should be at an angle of about 35 degrees to the direction in which they are moving



Leg yielding along the wall

Leg yielding on the diagonal

2.12 The lateral movements

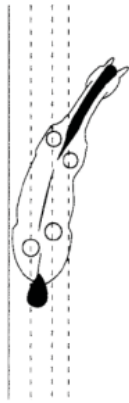
- the main aim of lateral movements (except leg-yielding) is to develop and increase the engagement of the hindquarters and thereby also the collection
- in all lateral movements (i.e. shoulder-in, travers, renvers, half-pass) the horse is slightly bent and moves with the forehand and the quarters on different tracks
- the bend or flexion must never be exaggerated so that it impairs the rhythm, the balance and fluency of the movement
- in the lateral movements, the pace should remain free and regular, maintaining a constant impulsion, yet it must be supple, cadenced and balanced. The impulsion is often lost because of the rider's preoccupation with bending the horse and pushing it sideways

2.12.1 Shoulder-in

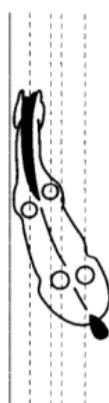
The shoulder-in exercise is performed in collected trot. The horse is ridden with a slight but uniform bend around the inside leg of the rider, maintaining engagement and cadence at a constant angle of approximately 30 degrees. The horse's inside foreleg passes and crosses in front of the outside foreleg; the inside hind leg steps forward under the horse's body weight following the same track of the outside fore leg, with the lowering of the inside hip. The horse is bent away from the direction from which it is moving (see Illustration 1).

2.12.2 Travers

- the aim of the travers is to show a fluent collected trot movement on a straight line and a correct bend. Front and hind legs are crossing, balance and cadence are maintained
- this exercise can be performed in collected trot or collected canter
- the horse is slightly bent around the inside leg of the rider but with a greater degree of bend than the shoulder-in
- a constant angle of approximately 35 degrees should be shown (from the front and from behind one sees 4 tracks)
- the forehand remains on the track and the quarters are moved inwards
- the horse's outside legs pass and cross in front of the inside legs. The horse is bent in the direction of movement
- to start the travers, the quarters must leave the track or, after a corner or circle, are not brought back onto the track
- at the end of the travers, the quarters are brought back on the track (without any counter-flexion of the poll/neck) as one would finish a circle (see illustration 2)



Shoulder in (illustration 1)



Travers (illustration 2)

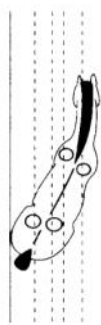
2.12.3 Renvers

- the aim of renvers is to show a fluent, collected trot movement on a straight line with a greater degree of bend than in shoulder-in. The fore and hind legs cross, balance and cadence are maintained
- in the renvers the hindquarters remain on the track while the forehand is moved inward.
- this is the inverse movement in relation to travers
- to finish the renvers the forehand is aligned with the quarters on the track. Otherwise, the same principles and conditions that apply to travers are applicable as at renvers (see illustration 3)
- the horse is slightly bent around the leg of the rider
- the horse's outside legs pass and cross in front of the inside legs
- the horse is bent in the direction in whilst it is moving (see illustration 3)

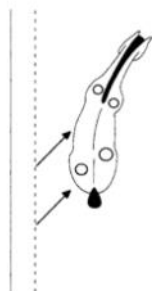
2.12.4 Half-pass

The half-pass is a variation of travers, executed on a diagonal line instead of along the wall. It can be performed in collected trot or collected canter.

- the aim of half-pass in trot is to show a fluent, collected trot movement on a diagonal line with a greater degree of bend than in shoulder-in
- in the half-pass the fore and hind legs cross, balance and cadence are maintained
- the aim of half-pass in canter is to both demonstrate and develop the collection and suppleness of the canter by moving fluently forwards and sideways without any loss of rhythm, balance or softness and submission to the bend
- the horse should be slightly bent in the direction in which it is moving and bent around the inside leg of the rider
- the horse should maintain the same cadence throughout the whole movement. In order to give more freedom and mobility to the shoulders, it is of great importance that the impulsion is maintained, especially the engagement of the inside hind leg
- in the half-pass the horse's body is nearly parallel to the long side of the arena with the forehand slightly in advance of the hindquarters (see illustration 4)



Renvers (illustration 3)

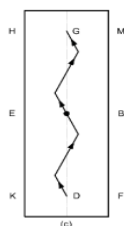
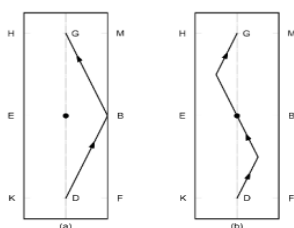


Half-Pass (illustration 4)

2.12.5 Counter changes of hand

This is a change of direction within half pass whether in trot or canter

- a single counter change is when the horse goes, for example, in half pass to the right and then changes direction and goes in half pass to the left (Diagram a below)
- two counter changes in trot or canter would mean that the horse goes for example to the right, to the left and then again to the right (Diagram b below)



In the Grand Prix, the zig zag in canter is 5 half passes either side of centre line which is 4 counter changes of hand.

EA Equipment Annex – Dressage Rules

The new Equestrian Australia Equipment Annex - Version 22 - 04.04.2023 has been effective since **23 April 2023**. Access through the EA Dressage Rules Webpage: <https://www.equestrian.org.au/Dressage-rules>

The summary of changes to the National Dressage Rules effective 1 January 2023 is now available at this link: [Summary - Dressage Rule Changes 1 January 2023 23112022.pdf \(equestrian.org.au\)](#)

Friendly reminders

- Judges who do not hold a current Working with Vulnerable People registration/card, will not be included on the Equestrian Australia Judges' List.
- Riders may now ride only two tests per day at any level.
- Numbers at a height of 3.5-4cm need to be visible on BOTH SIDES of a saddle pad or bridle when competing and BOTH SIDES of a halter at any other time at Dressage Tasmania events.
- As of 1 January 2024 EA dressage competitions must have an accredited EA Steward on duty. A Steward or Steward-appointed person is necessary to check gear at competitions. Checking of gear is undertaken AFTER a test.

Please check the current Dressage Rules and Equipment Annex before attending Dressage Tasmania events to ensure your equipment is correct, to prevent any surprises!

Values



Dedication	Committed to supporting dressage in Tasmania.
Respect	Everyone is valued and treated accordingly.
Excellence	Striving to provide the best possible experience.
Solidarity	We are all in this together.
Safety	Horse and rider welfare is the priority.
Access	An environment where everyone is welcome.
Growth	Nurturing membership development.
Encouragement	Dressage as a positive experience.

Your feedback matters!

Members are encouraged to have input into the way we do dressage in Tasmania. Ideas and ways of improvement are welcome. Email dressagetasmania@outlook.com or your Zone contact. Likewise, if you think of anything you'd like included in future newsletters, let us know.

Web links

[Dressage Tasmania \(equestrian.org.au\)](http://equestrian.org.au)
[Horse Registration | Equestrian Tasmania](#)
[Your Membership | Equestrian Tasmania](#)
[Insurance | Equestrian Australia](#)
[Medication Control | Equestrian Tasmania](#)
[Discipline rules & regulations | Equestrian Australia](#)

Dressage Tasmania web site:

<https://www.tas.equestrian.org.au/dressage/>

Dressage Tasmania E-mail:

dressagetasmania@outlook.com



<https://www.facebook.com/dressagetasmania>