

**HORSE RIDING CLUBS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.**

<b>JUMPING EVENTS GEAR CHECKERS GUIDELINES</b>
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HRCav gear check is **NOT** a safety check. Competitors are solely responsible for the correct fit and safe condition of their gear; rather it is a check to ensure that the Competitor is using the correct gear allowable under HRCav Rules.

A Gear Checker **MUST NOT** alter or interfere with a Competitor's gear (ie. tighten the girth). They may however suggest to the Competitor that an adjustment is advisable - the **Competitor** must see to any alteration, if they feel it is necessary. This advice is for the Gear Checkers own protection as any interference that may result in injury to horse or Rider may render the Gear Checker responsible, or in an extreme case, liable to prosecution.

**MEDICAL ARMBANDS**

Must be worn on the rider's upper arm for all Jumping Events or Phases. You must check that the name on the armband is the name of the rider.

**SADDLE:**

Any type of saddle (except side-saddle) is permitted however, if a single buckle girth is used, a surcingle must be fitted. In the interest of safety, the stirrup leathers must hang free from the bar of the saddle and outside of the flap.

**BRIDLE:**

Any type of bridle may be used. Any rein/s must be attached to the bit(s) or directly to the bridle. Gags and hackamores are allowed.

**BITS:**

Any bits may be used.

**NOSEBANDS:**

Any of the illustrated nosebands may be used. The noseband should not be so tightly fixed as to cause the horse harm.

**BREASTPLATES:** Are permitted.

**MARTINGALES:**

Running martingales are permitted in all Levels. These must be fitted with keepers on the reins, stoppers also must be fitted even when run through a breastplate. Standing martingales are NOT permitted at any Level.

**SPURS:**

Not allowed for Level 5 Riders. Spurs must be metal and the shank must point directly back or down from the centre. Arms must be smooth. If rowels are used they must be free to rotate and must not be sharpened.

**WHIPS:**

A whip or crop may be carried and used by a Competitor provided its length does not exceed 75cm and it is not weighted at the end.

**HELMET:**

An approved equestrian helmet with a fixed harness must be worn at all times whilst mounted.

**CLUB COLOURS:**

Registered Club Colours must be worn by Competitors with club name or logo displayed on upper body garment and /or saddle blanket. Short or long riding boots must be worn.

**BOOTS AND BANDAGES:**

Protective boots may be worn and the type of boots is optional. Bandages are not permissible.

**BODY PROTECTOR:**

A body protector is compulsory for the cross country phase of Horse Trials.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

Any other gadgets such as bearing, running, balancing or side reins are not permitted. Ear muffs, ear plugs, blinkers and hoods are not allowed.