

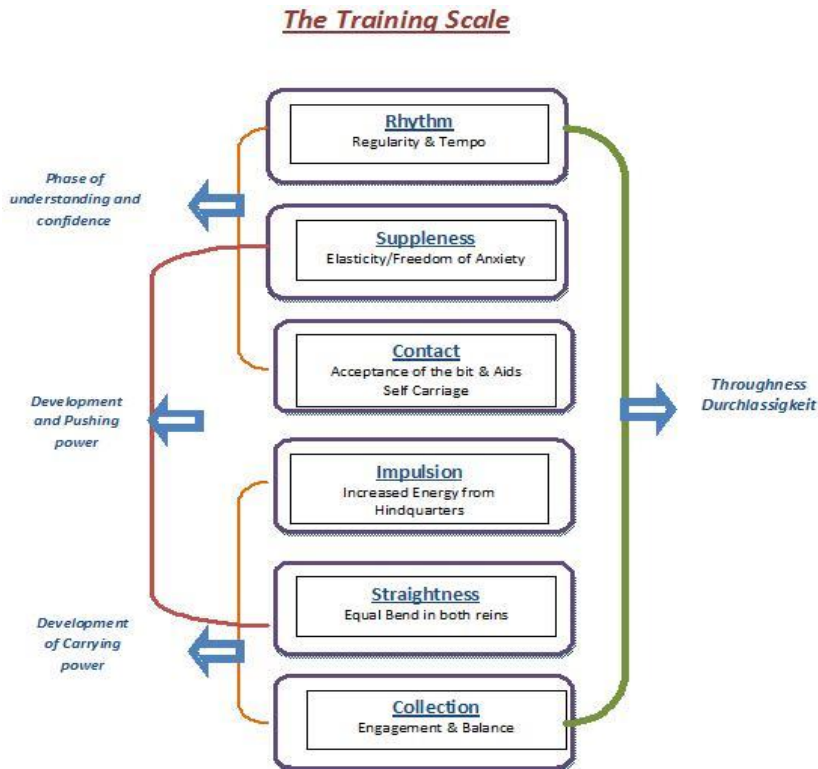


## HORSE RIDING CLUBS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

### 3PE Judges Notes for the Style Phase

Note; To be read in conjunction with the Three Phase Equitation Rules and other associated rules.

#### The Training Scale



Horses are expected to show development of the various qualities covered in the Training Scale (see diagram), starting in Levels 4 & 5 where the emphasis is on developing rhythm, relaxation and acceptance of the basic aids.

These elements should be more established in Level 3 with the horse showing suppleness, improved balance and acceptance of the bit.

By Level 2 the horse is expected to be developing impulsion and improved straightness which will assist their progression to Levels 1 and Advanced where collection is required.

#### Obstacles

What to take into consideration when marking the obstacles:

- Contacting an obstacle (including the pole) with any part of the horse or rider
- Circling an obstacle in the attempt to complete it.
- Hesitation including refusing an obstacle for less than 8 secs
- Failure to replace the rope gate (except after the halt in level 5 or 4)
- Missing the ring
- Knocking down the jump while jumping
- Knocking Side pass pole including knocking it off its stands
- Pole bounces out of barrel or is dropped and rider dismounts and replaces it.
- Unable to complete an obstacle however did commence
- Directives for that level
- Failure to replace the item in the Move Item
- Failure to replace the cup in the Switch Cup
- Failure to replace the Jug on the Jug Table
- Failure to replace the pole in the drum

All of the above would result in lower marks.

For example;

1. The competitor rode to the ring straight and without hesitation, the ring was skewered however dropped shortly after. The Competitor would be rewarded for the Gait, Rhythm, confidence, straightness however mark/s would be deducted for the accuracy.
2. The competitor rode to the barrel in rhythm and without hesitation, the Competitor drops the pole in the barrel but it bounces out. The rider dismounts picks up the pole and replaces the pole before remounting. The Competitor would be rewarded for the Gait, Rhythm, confidence however mark/s would be deducted for the accuracy.
3. A level 3 competitor circles the gate in the attempt to position the horse correctly. The mark would be lowered due to the circling affecting the Straightness of the approach and may also affect the transition, willingness, relaxation and fluidity.

### **The Horse**

- Grinding the teeth and swishing the tail are signs of nervousness, tenseness or resistance on the part of the horse and must be taken into account by the Judge in their marks for the movement concerned, as well as in the collective marks for submission.

### **Comments**

- It is recommended that all obstacles be given a comment, especially Levels 3 to 5, and particularly for marks below 6.
- “Not executed” means that obstacle was not commenced.

### **Collective Marks**

#### LEVEL 5

- Obedience of the horse: Attentiveness and response to the aids
- Rider’s seat and control of the horse

#### LEVEL 4

- Paces: Freedom and regularity of paces, including amount of canter - Freedom and regularity
- Obedience of the horse: Willingness of horse to travel forward. Responsiveness to rider’s aids. Attentiveness
- Rider’s seat and control of the horse

#### LEVEL 3

- Paces: freedom and regularity, including amount of canter - Freedom and regularity
- Impulsion: desire to move forward, elasticity of steps, relaxation of the back
- Submission: attention and confidence; harmony, lightness and ease of movements, acceptance of the bridle
- Rider’s position and seat: correctness and effect of the aids

#### LEVELS 2, 1 & ADVANCED

- Paces: freedom and regularity, including amount of canter (and flying change attempts for advanced)- Freedom and regularity
- Impulsion: desire to move forward, elasticity of steps, relaxation of the back and engagement of the hindquarters
- Submission: attention and confidence, harmony, lightness and ease of movements, acceptance of the bridle and lightness of the forehand
- Rider’s position and seat correctness and effect of the aids

### **Transitions**

Transitions should be performed as the rider’s body aligns with the prescribed marker. The quality of the pace should be maintained up to the moment when the pace or movement is changed.

In level 5 the expectation is that transitions will be performed within 3 strides of the marker, in level 4 within 2 strides of the marker and in level 3 within 1 stride of the marker. By level 2 all transitions should be smooth and on

the marker. Transitions within the pace must be clearly defined while maintaining the same rhythm and cadence throughout. The horse should remain light in hand, calm and maintain a correct position.

### **Use of the Bell**

*Error of the course, as per the penalty table;*

The Judge warns the Competitor by sounding the Bell. The Judge shows the rider, if necessary, the point at which he must take up the obstacle again, then leaves him to continue by himself. However, in some cases, although the Competitor makes an error of the course, the sounding of the Bell would unnecessarily impede the fluency of the performance, for instance if the Competitor fails to halt at the Move item.

*Error of Gait;*

Ringing the bell in this case would not be suitable.

*Elimination, as per the penalty table;*

The Judge warns the Competitor by sounding the Bell. Once eliminated the Competitor can complete one other obstacle and then must leave the arena (unless as a result of a fall).

*3 Refusals of 8 Sec on course;*

The Judge is **not** required to ring the bell until the 3 refusals/resistances of 8 secs on course has been reached. Once the Competitor has reached the 3 refusals/resistances of 8 secs on course the judge will ring the bell and the competitor will be eliminated.

## 3PE Judges Notes for the Speed and Accuracy Phase

### **Use of the Bell**

*Error of the course, as per the penalty table;*

The Judge warns the Competitor by sounding the Bell. The Judge shows the rider, if necessary, the point at which he must take up the obstacle again, then leaves him to continue by himself. Timing continues as the penalty is the time it takes for the rider to correct the error.

*Elimination, as per the penalty table;*

The Judge warns the Competitor by sounding the Bell. Once eliminated the Competitor can complete one other obstacle and then must leave the arena (unless as a result of a fall where they must leave immediately).

*Refusal/Resistance of more than 8 sec*

The Judge is **not** required to ring the bell until the 3 refusals/resistances of 8 secs on course has been reached. Once the Competitor has reached the 3 refusals/resistances of 8 secs on course the judge will ring the bell and the competitor will be eliminated.

### **Definitions for both Style and Speed and Accuracy Phases**

Refusal/Resistance is defined as excessive circling, not moving forward, stopping, running backwards or sideways

Stepping off the Bridge/Varied Footing sideways means that at least two hooves have touched the ground once the horse has commenced the bridge/ Varied Footing

Trot or canter Bridge, varied footing or timber bank is where the horse has trotted or cantered (including jumping on to or off the end) on the actual Bridge, varied footing or timber bank.

**UPDATED JUNE 2023**