



## Hong Kong Equestrian Federation

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Office: HKJC Shatin Racecourse, 8/F Central Complex, Shatin, New Territories, Hong Kong  
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### **Approved solutions to address issues on graded Dressage competitions in 2021 - 2022 caused by the COVID-19 pandemic**

14 February, 2022

Dear all,

Since the beginning of the current season 2021 – 2022 in last September, HKJC has rolled out its anti-COVID measures for horse shows at Beas River Equestrian Centre. At Dressage shows, Dressage judges were advised to sit separately from the writer and communicate via radio, phone, etc. At that time, passing of the score sheets between writers and judges were not allowed and writers were required to complete final comments on the score sheets without judge's signature. Judges were given an extra sheet for each rider to add comments and his official signature. Based on the improvement of the pandemic situation in Hong Kong, the anti-COVID measures of HKJC was later revised on 13 November 2021 to allow the passing of the score sheets between judges and writers. All judges and writers were required to disinfect their hands before and after passing the score sheets to each other or to the secretariat. The extra sheet for collective marks and judge's signature was then cancelled and the normal score sheets for Dressage competitions were resumed.

Since all graded Dressage shows were held in accordance to the HKEF Dressage rules and according to Article 343 1.3, judges were required to sign on the score sheets. The extra paper signed by Dressage judges on top of the score sheets that have been used for graded Dressage shows from 4 September to 31 October 2021 were not within our current HKEF Dressage rules.

In order to address the issue of exemption of judges' signature on the score sheets caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and to validate the Horse of the Year Points accumulated from all graded Dressage shows from 4 September to 31 October 2021, it was proposed by Rules Subcommittee and approved by Executive Committee on the exemption of judges' signatures on the score sheets for the graded Dressage shows held from 4 September to 31 October 2021 where HKJC anti-COVID measures with no passing of score sheets between judges and writers were in place.

In view of the uncertainties caused by the ongoing pandemic situation in Hong Kong, it was proposed by Rules Subcommittee and approved by Executive Committee to make some changes to our current Dressage rules for the rest of the season 2021 – 2022 in the format of an addendum. A full review on our HKEF Dressage rules will be conducted at the end of the season 2021 – 2022.



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### **Addendum to the HKEF Dressage Rules**

This addendum shall amend Article 343 of the HKEF Dressage Rules effective from 1st September 2021. It was agreed by the Executive Committee of HKEF to amend Article 343 1.1, 1.3, 2 & 4 with immediate effect until 31 August 2022 as below:

#### **Article 343 – Judges' Sheets**

1. Marking sheets, one per entry per Judge, are required. Marks and Judges comments should be entered in ink.

- 1.1 The Judges' sheets have 2 columns, the first for the Judge's original mark and the second for the Judge's comments. Any correction made to a mark must be initialed by the Judge making the correction.

Changed as:

The Judges' sheets have 2 columns, the first for the Judge's original mark and the second for the Judge's comments. Any correction made to a mark must be verified by the Judge making the correction.

- 1.2 In the comments column the Judge should as far as possible state his reason for his judgment. It is strongly recommended that comments should be given when giving marks of 5 or below.
- 1.3 The judge gives the collective marks and then signs the sheet and passes it to the scorers. The scorers multiply the marks by the corresponding coefficients where applicable and total the marks. Penalty points for errors in the execution of the test are then deducted on each Judge's sheet. The total score for classification is obtained by adding the total points on each of the Judges' sheets and converted to a percentage.

Changed as:

The judge gives the collective marks and the scorers multiply the marks by the corresponding coefficients where applicable and total the marks. Penalty points for errors in the execution of the test are then deducted on each Judge's sheet. The total score for classification is obtained by adding the total points on each of the Judges' sheets and converted to a percentage.

2. Competitors may be given their Judging sheets on the completion of the competition but not until the Judges have sanctioned their distribution.

Changed as:



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Competitors may be given their Judging sheets after the competition by email but not until the Judges have sanctioned their distribution.

3. Competitors taking part in two dressage classes on the same day judged by the same Judge, shall not have access to their judging sheets before competing in the second class.
4. Judges' marking sheets with remarks duly signed by the Judge, must be treated as confidential until given to the competitor, when they become his private property  
Changed as:  
Judges' marking sheets with remarks verified by the Judge, must be treated as confidential until given to the competitor, when they become his private property
5. The Organisers of a dressage competition are obliged to make public the percentage awarded by each of the Judges, the total percentage and the classification of results, for each of the entries in the competition. Results should be announced as soon as possible after each competitor has completed the test.

A full review on our HKEF Dressage rules will be conducted by HKEF Rules Subcommittee at the end of the season 2021 – 2022.

Thank you for your attention.

Your sincerely,

Gerald Kuh  
Chairman, Rules Subcommittee

Angela Kong  
Secretary General