

# RIDE WRITE

Affiliations EA South Australia Member Horse SA HRCav



## *From the President*

Hope your enjoying this lovely weather, nice to be out with it being a bit dryer under foot...

Angela Donaldson clinic report

Well done to all those that attended the clinic, we had all 4 seasons in those few days, the rain on Sunday didn't dampen anyone's great riding!!there were some drop jaw rides with fabulous training that we saw...

Well done to everyone..!!

I have had preliminary discussions with Jen Gilligan re the Lindy Wright Award. A criteria is being developed by the committee under the recommendations from Jen to support a deserving dedicated rider to pursue they dreams with the help of this generous support from Jen. It will be open to all ages. Stand by for forms appearing soon in this newsletter in the near future.

The January day will be held at the Lucindale Hockey Grounds... we thought of running thru a test that will be used at the Lucindale Show Dressage..

Have received a heads up from the Chair of Dressage SA to let us know the process of approval for new dressage tests is under way and if completed in time there will be new tests to ride 1st January 2023. ***Cheers Ann***

## *Inside this issue*

Committee Minutes

Calendar

Clinic Report

EA updates

HRCav Dressage Sub Committee

info of levels

Activity Day registration

information

Watch this space  
for news of all the  
new dressage tests  
expected in the  
New Year 2023



EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

# EA Steward Pathway



Dressage SA is working on running stewarding courses in 2023 to help train the officials that will be needed to run Competitive and Participant classes after the 2024 introduction of the rule.

Please would you consider stepping up to become an EA Steward and help develop the sports of Dressage, Showjumping, Eventing, Carriage Driving and Vaulting in our region.

If so contact Ann Dodd for more details.

The 2022 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Equestrian Australia Limited (ACN 077 455 755) (EA) is scheduled to be held **Wednesday 30 November 2022** at 7pm AEDT.





## MID SOUTH EAST DRESSAGE CLUB MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** Wednesday November 2, 2022, 7pm (SA time) via Zoom

**Committee:** Ann Dodd (chair) Kate Dennis, Linda Archer, Trudi Lutt, Kristy Boord, June Whitehead, Helen Possingham, Julie Baillie, Lucie Hill, Libby Marcus

**Meeting opened:** 7.05pm

**Present:** Ann Dodd, Linda Archer, Trudi Lutt, Lucy Hill, Helen Possingham, Julie Baillie

**Apologies** – Libby Marcus, June Whitehead, Kristy Boord

### **Conformation of previous committee minutes**

Minutes from meeting held Wednesday October 5, 2022, read to be true and correct.

Moved Linda Seconded Ann All in favor CARRIED

### **Business arising from previous minutes**

#### MSEDC Website

Lucy contacted Paula and has access to the website. It is a little hard to navigate. Will Lucy contact Paula to add Dianne Green (dc) to life members and remove Naracoorte Cottages from sponsors list.

#### October Activity Day 22 – 23 October 2022 – Angela Donaldson Clinic

Great weekend had by all. The venue was changed to Ann D and Kate D properties due to lack of numbers.

There was an extra \$40 paid for the clinic and the money will be paid to Kate for the use of her arena for the weekend.

#### November Activity Day/Christmas Break-up Sunday 27/11/2022

Fun day - 10.30am start 12.30pm lunch – arena and poles

Linda will email the ground hire form to Pony Club and ask if we could use the clubrooms for the day. Ann will ask Kate if she would like to give a talk.

Linda will do a booking form for the day. Ann will buy hot chickens for lunch. Members bring salads or cake. Meeting at 2pm

#### January Activity Day 22/01/2023 Lucindale Hockey Grounds

Come ride a test day ready for Lucindale Show weekend. Linda will do a booking form. Start time will be weather dependent.

Judges - Ann, Lucy & Helen. Tests - EA B, HRCV 2 & Prep C will score on paper. Ann will ask Colleen if we could leave the trailer somewhere ready for Lucindale Show

#### Lucindale Show 25-26 February 2023

Ann has contacted Colleen and the Show Society would like us to run the Dressage. Colleen will organise entries, catering for judges, grounds etc.

Dressage tests – EA A&B, Prep C&D, HRCV 2&3

Judges – Jen Gilligan. Linda will contact Barry & Lyn Roycroft.

#### Extravaganza 11 – 12 March 2023 Hynam

Coaches – Jason Dins, Sue Chandler & Lucy Williams.

Trudi to confirm with Lucy about accommodation and her price for the weekend

Kate will take groups of five for horse health when not riding.

Kate to contact Riannon Longney for horse body work if unavailable June will ask Jess Winter.

Will charge a flat rate/lesson with discount for members again as worked well this year. Discussion on how much to charge for lessons \$130/lesson with discount for members

BBQ with salads and dessert Saturday night.

Linda will start the booking form and send it to the committee.

#### Winter Series

Dates – April 23<sup>rd</sup> Unofficial, May 28<sup>th</sup> Official & OTT, June 25<sup>th</sup> Unofficial, July 23<sup>rd</sup> HOY 2023

Venues – Unofficial rounds Polocrosse Grounds Hynam (TBC)

Official Rounds Naracoorte Show Grounds.

Linda has started a flyer.

#### Country Classic 23 – 24 September 2023

Schedule needs to be sent out at the end of March.

Ann has sent a message to cater for next year.

Show Grounds tentatively booked.

#### **Correspondence In**

Nominate – membership payment receipt emails

HRCav – October Snapchat

2022 Lindy Wright Award winner Jen Gilligan email

2024 EA Steward – How to Guide letter

Horse SA AGM notice

Naracoorte Cottages

HRCav Certificate of Placement

#### **Correspondence Out**

Newsletter to members

Angela Donaldson Clinic booking form

Treasurer's Report – Emailed to committee. Balance as of August 2022, **\$25,533.84** report. Moved Linda Seconded Helen All in favor. CARRIED

#### General Business

##### Lindy Wright Award

Jen Gilligan won the award and has kindly donated her prize to our club. Ann will discuss with Jen how she would like us to use the donation. Ann will write Jen a thank you letter.

#### Newsletter

Ann will send information to Sue for the newsletter. Linda will send her booking forms for November and January. Trudi will finish the MSEDG Calendar and send it.

#### Polocrosse letter of support for Grant Application

The Polocrosse are applying for funding to build new clubrooms and toilet/showers.

Committee in favor of supporting Polocrosse. Linda will fill out the form.

#### Other Business

No other Business

**Next meeting: 27<sup>th</sup> November at Activity Day Naracoorte Pony Club 2pm**

**Meeting closed 8.30pm**



# HRCAV

# Dressage Sub-Committee

## HRCAV DRESSAGE : THROUGH THE LEVELS

The aim of the HRCAV Dressage tests is to evaluate the combination's progress and to encourage the development of the horse into a happy athlete through systematic and harmonious education. HRCAV Dressage Tests range from Level 5 (lowest) to Advanced (highest). Each level has specific requirements and expectations against which the combination is judged.

Horses are expected to show development of the various qualities covered in the Training Scale, 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.

In levels 4 & 5 the horse is required to demonstrate the basic paces. As the horse's training progresses, variations of the basic paces are required.

In levels 4 & 5, 20m circles are required. In level 3, 15m circles are introduced. Circles test the horse's lateral flexibility and engagement of the inside hind leg as well as obedience. The circles and half circles become smaller in diameter in the higher level tests, requiring a greater degree of suppleness, engagement and self-carriage.

At Halt, in levels 4 & 5, the horse is expected to stand attentive and motionless for the prescribed length of time and be ready to move off at the indication of the rider. At levels 4 & 3 a "good" halt will be square in front but is unlikely to be square behind. As the training progresses the quality of the halt will improve. By level 2, in addition to the above qualities, the horse will stand engaged, square and on the bit with the poll at the highest point and the nose slightly in front of the vertical.

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.

Correctly executed corners are an indication of the horse's balance, straightness, suppleness and thoroughness. In levels 4 & 5 the horse is not expected to be ridden deeply into corners. By level 3 the horse is expected to execute corners on a 10m diameter curve. By level 1 and Advanced, the horse is expected to execute corners on an 8m diameter curve.

## DRESSAGE LEVEL DESCRIPTIONS & REQUIREMENTS

### LEVEL 5 DRESSAGE

This Level is for inexperienced combinations with minimal competition experience. It enables them to enjoy competition against combinations of a similar ability and to develop the ability to perform simple movements calmly and obediently.

Experienced Riders training green/ young horses MUST NOT be assessed at this Level. A Rider is considered too capable for Level 5 if they have ever been assessed Level 3 or above in this discipline.

To be assessed at base Level 5 for Dressage or Showing, riders will be required to demonstrate that they can walk, trot, canter, turn and halt their mount with a degree of balance and control which would allow them to satisfy the requirements of the level.

On occasion, riders may inform the judge that they are not going to canter in the test. In this case the judge should encourage the rider to have a go, however if the rider does not attempt canter then the score should be very low (0 or 1) for the transitions but might be as high as a 5 for the line ridden if it is ridden accurately but at the incorrect pace. If the rider has indicated they will

not canter then they are not given an error, just marked accordingly. If the rider has not indicated that they will not canter and do not attempt the transition then the bell should be rung, an error of test given and the rider informed that they should have cantered. If they still do not canter then the mark will be given in accordance, as well as the error. If a rider attempts to canter they would score a higher (but still low) mark.

### Test Directives:

- All trot work rising
- Transitions into and out of halt will be made through walk
- Running martingales are allowed, Spurs are not allowed

*Aim: Introducing inexperienced combinations to riding dressage tests. Horse showing basic paces. Developing ability to perform simple movements calmly and obediently*

### When commencing at Level 5, Combinations:

- May have an unsteady position and ineffective, obvious and/or uncoordinated use of the aids.
- May be unable to ride a straight line or execute accurate figures.
- May be unable to recognise correct diagonal at trot or leading leg at canter
- May be unable to perform a square halt either front or back
- May be unable to maintain a steady rhythm
- Level 5 Requirements
- Execute changes of pace – halt, walk, trot and canter
- Hold immobility at halt for 3 seconds
- Execute canter depart from a corner
- Ride circles 20m at trot
- Transitions should be within 3 strides of the marker
- Transitions into and out of halt through walk

## LEVEL 4 DRESSAGE

This Level is the next step up from Level 5. The combination's ability has improved to enable them to show a steadier, more accurate test. The rider will have better balance and control but may not be achieving a steady connection. In level 4, the horse should be allowed to work forward in a natural rhythm with minimal interference from the rider. Relaxation and steadiness of rhythm should be developing but loss of balance and/or suppleness may affect the quality of the work. Transitions may be unbalanced and not at the markers. Sitting trot is not required and would be difficult for horse and rider to perform. Horse and/or rider may lack competition experience. The main aim of this Level is to show a horse willing to move freely forward in a steady rhythm and showing acceptance of the basic aids. The rider should attempt correction of incorrect diagonals and leading legs in canter.

### Test Directives:

- All trot work rising
- Transitions into and out of halt will be made through walk

*Aim: In addition to Level 5, horse willing to move freely forward in steady rhythm and showing acceptance of the basic aids*

### When commencing at level 4, Combinations

- Should show more balance than Level 5,
- May be unbalanced during transitions, or transitions may be unsteady and not at the marker
- Paces may be unsteady in rhythm

### Level 4 Expectations

- The horse should be going forward willingly and calmly
- Transitions should be within two strides of the marker
- Halt should be square in front but not necessarily behind
- Corners should be ridden on a 15m diameter curve
- Should be able to ride correct diagonal, or correct when wrong

- Should be able to ride a reasonably accurate 20m circle at trot or canter
- Should attempt to ride accurately on the track
- Transitions into and out of the halt will be through the walk
- Level 4 Requirements
- Maintain immobility at halt for 4 seconds
- Execute canter depart from a corner with correct lead
- Ride circles, 20m at trot and canter
- Free walk showing clear lengthening of the rein to enable horse to stretch neck
- Change of rein on short diagonal in trot
- Working trot and working canter

## LEVEL 3 DRESSAGE

At this level, the rider will be establishing an independent seat allowing more effective use of the aids and steadier paces. Combinations should be working towards consolidation of rhythm, suppleness and acceptance of the contact.

Level 3 is generally suited to an experienced rider on a less established horse, or a less experienced rider on an educated horse.

Dressage tests will be ridden in sitting and/or rising trot. Sitting trot should be reasonably steady, with the rider establishing the ability to follow the movement of the horse without interference to rhythm and contact. With the horse's improving balance, the ability to show lengthened strides in trot is being developed. Transitions will be smoother and closer to the markers. The rider may be able to work the horse from behind into a contact, but there may still be some inconsistency in the quality of the connection.

### Test Directives:

- All trot work rising or sitting unless stated otherwise
- Transitions into and out of halt may be made through walk

*Aim: In addition to Level 4, consolidating rhythm and*

*suppleness. Showing acceptance of the contact. Developing lengthened paces*

### When commencing level 3, Combinations

- Will be starting to show acceptance of the bridle, but the horse may not be working from behind, and the contact may still be inconsistent
- Should be working in a more consistent outline – however the horse should NOT be overbent or "pulled" into an outline
- The rider should have a good understanding of ringcraft

### Level 3 Expectations

- Should be going forward willingly and calmly
- Should show clear transitions and be closer to the marker (within one stride)
- Should attempt to ride corners on a 10m diameter curve
- Halt should be square in front
- May perform transitions into and out of halt through walk (2 strides max)
- May attempt a reasonably steady sitting trot
- Should attempt to show correct bend and flexion on circles and in corners
- Should work in a rounder frame

### Level 3 Requirements

- Maintain immobility at halt for 4 seconds
- Ride straight lines
- Ride correct circles, 15m at trot and 20m at canter
- Ride serpentines of 3 loops at trot
- Free walk on a long rein
- Working trot and canter
- Some lengthened stride in trot
- Inside and both rein release in trot
- Stretch out and down in trot
- Sitting trot

*Dressage SC*



Club Activity Day & Breakup  
Sunday 27 November 2022



## **Christmas Breakup Lunch and Activity Day**

**MSEDC will provide meat  
Please bring a salad or dessert to share**

**Fun morning – 10.30am start  
arena time and pole exercises  
Lunch 12.30pm**

**Booking form see Page 7 catering purposes**



MSEDC Activity Day – Sunday 27 November 2022

Bookings & Enquiries Email: - [treasurer@msedc.org.au](mailto:treasurer@msedc.org.au)

Linda Archer 0427 208 180

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact No: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of people for lunch: \_\_\_\_\_

Any dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle if you will bring a salad or dessert to share

Salad

Dessert

**Please RSVP by Monday 21 November 2022 for catering purposes**





## Dates for 2022/23

### November 27<sup>th</sup> –

Club Day Christmas break up Fun Day

### December N/A

### January 22nd

Proposed Twilight Competition

### February 25th 26th

Lucindale Show

### March 11th 12th

Extravaganza

### April 23rd

Winter Series round 1 unofficial

### May 28th

Winter Series round 2 Official

### June 25th

Winter Series round 3 unofficial

### July 23rd

Winter Series round 4 Official HOTY

### August 27th

Club training day and AGM

### September 23rd/24th

SA Country Dressage Classic

### President:

Ann Dodd  
president@msedc.org.au

**0400737087**

### Vice-President:

Kate Dennis  
**0458607090**

### Minute Secretary:

Trudi Lutt  
secretary@msedc.org.au

### Treasurer:

Linda Archer  
0427 208 180  
treasurer@msedc.org.au

### Committee:

Kristy Boord  
June Whitehead  
Lucie Hill  
Helen Possingham  
Julie Baillie  
Libby Marcus

### Life Members:

Sue Thornley  
Margie Stuart  
Amanda Lock  
Kristy Boord



Find us on  
**Facebook**

[www.msedc.org.au](http://www.msedc.org.au)

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Committee. To the extent permitted by law, The Mid South East Dressage Club Committee, disclaims any liability whatsoever in relation to any advice, representation, statement, opinion or other matter expressed in this Newsletter.