



Fédération  
Equestre  
Internationale



MEMO – STEWARDING AND  
BRIDLE ADJUSTMENTS

15 June 2016

## MEMO FROM THE FEI DRESSAGE STEWARD GENERAL

### REMINDER:

The checking of the bridle must be done with the greatest caution, as some horses are very touchy and sensitive about their mouth.

Immediately after the dressage test, the noseband, bits and ear hood must be checked, together with the spurs, and any signs of spur marks.

A safe and discreet area must be set-aside and identified for this purpose. Before arriving at the indicated control area the Steward should not permit the Athlete/groom to open the noseband, or remove the ear hood.

The Steward should witness the opening of the noseband, the bridle and the removal of the ear hood. The execution is done by the groom or the Athlete and not the Steward. Stewards **MUST NOT** open the noseband, or adjust the bridle or remove the ear hood themselves!

If horses are behaving in a dangerous way, the Steward may ask the Athlete/groom to take the horse back to its stable and check the equipment in a calmer environment. The Steward may then ask the Athlete/groom to remove the bridle in the stable, and check it without disturbing the horse!

When checking the bits the Steward must wear two clean disposable gloves.

The blood check has to be done immediately after the test; in case of doubt, the assistance of the FEI Vet will be required.

Stewards have to keep in mind that the safety and welfare of the horse and the Athlete are our highest priority and concern!

The Chief Steward will give a briefing to his team members about these protocols and procedures at the start of each competition.