

## 24. Equipment - The Horse.

**COMPETITION NUMBERS.** Horses must wear their competition number at **ALL** times at a show.

### 24a) Saddles

Saddles must be worn and be of English or Continental style and must be black, brown, grey or navy. Western style or brightly coloured saddles are not permitted. Stirrup leathers and irons are compulsory and must be attached to the saddle and used in the conventional way. The rider's boots must not be fixed to the stirrup iron by any mechanical means. It is permissible to ride sidesaddle.

### 24b) Saddle Covers

Saddle covers are not permitted under any circumstances, except during riding in, or as permitted equipment by a "carded", disabled rider.

A gel pad seat saver is permitted, provided that it is unobtrusive and matches the colour of the saddle.

Other types of seat saver, including sheepskin / fur fabric are not permitted, unless with written dispensation from the Dressage Ireland office.

Treeless saddles are permitted.

### 24c) Tricolour saddle Cloths

A competitor representing Ireland may wear a tricolour saddlecloth badge.

Those selected for 'Friendly Internationals' may wear a tricolour saddlecloth badge but permission must be sought from the Board of Dressage Ireland. They must not be worn when riding abroad in Regional or National (i.e. British) Championships.

Logos on each side of the saddlecloth are permitted but must not exceed 200 square cm (approx. 14cm x 14cm)

### 24d) Bridles

Bridles should be used as follows:

**Preliminary and Novice:** Ordinary snaffle bridle.

**Elementary, to Advanced:** Ordinary snaffle bridle or double bridle.

**P.S.G to G.P. tests that are ridden under National rules: Double bridle.**

**International P.S.G. to G.P. tests under F.E.I. rules: DOUBLE BRIDLE**

The "Micklem" bridle is permitted.

### 24e) Permitted Bits, Tack and Equipment.

#### Snaffle

Only the bits illustrated in these rules are permitted. Where there is any doubt, guidance should be sought from Dressage Ireland.

Bridles may not be decorated with tassels or any additions to the normal configuration.

Discreet padding of the bridle at the poll or noseband is permitted.

1. Ordinary snaffle with double-jointed mouthpiece
2. Ordinary snaffle with double-jointed mouthpiece (French Link)
3. Ordinary snaffle with jointed mouthpiece with Lozenge
4. Ordinary snaffle with jointed mouthpiece
5. Ordinary snaffle with rotating middle section.
6. Racing Snaffle (D ring)
7. Egg-butt snaffle
  - a without cheeks
  - b with cheeks
8. Other type of snaffle with cheeks
9. Snaffle with upper cheeks only
10. Rubber, leather or plastic snaffle jointed or unjointed
11. Unjointed snaffle
12. Hanging cheeks egg butt snaffle or loose ring hanging snaffle

Bits of rubber, nylon or other synthetic materials are permitted.

Bits must be used in their manufactured condition without any addition to/on any part. Only the bits that are illustrated are permitted, they may be used with any of the cheeks or rings illustrated.

It is permitted to use two reins with a snaffle bit. Plastic bits with a cylindrical joint are permitted.

