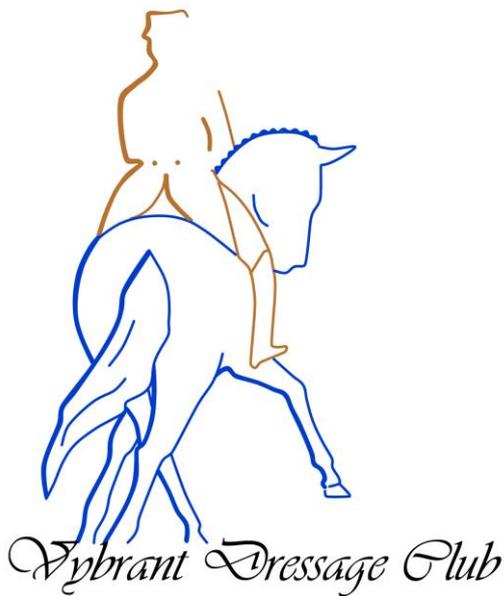


info@vybrant.co.za

www.vybrant.co.za

Welcome to all our new Members! We are growing fast!
Want to see Previous Newsletters? All on our website!



Happy New Year!

May your Pirouettes and Piaffe be Perfection, your Sequence changes Stupendous and your Horse a very Happy athlete!



Don't forget to renew your Membership for 2018!

We are pleased to be able to retain 2017 membership prices for you!

Adult Competitive: R150 Junior/Pony Rider/Children R50, Recreational R50. Officials (dressage judges) free.

TO RENEW, simply send an email to Gina on info@vybrant.co.za, enclosing your proof of payment. Please make sure your full name is on your email.

**Our new banking details: Vybrant Dressage Club ; Standard Bank, Fourways Crossing
Branch Code: 009953; Account Number: 063 046 539**

FRIENDS OF YOURS WANTING TO JOIN?

Go to our website, www.vybrant.co.za, click on Membership and follow the prompts. Need any help? Contact Gina on 011 065 9305 ext 9307 or email her on info@vybrant.co.za



The ever popular **Niall Quirk** will be returning to run clinics in January. He has a huge base of long standing clients, so the January clinic is full. You are very welcome to put your name on our waiting list, just drop a line to judy@vybrant.co.za or 083 601 2104

Spectators are very welcome to watch (no charge).

Clinic times in Johannesburg are as follows:

Manor D'Or Equestrian

Wednesday 17 January : 11h15 – 15h00

Thursday 18 January : 10h30 – 15h00

Friday 19 January : 10h30 – 15h45

London Lane Stud

Thursday 25 January : 11h15 – 16h15

Friday 26 January : 10h30 – 15h45

Monday 29 January : 11h15 – 15h45



Time to order your beautiful blue Vybrant soft shell jacket.

Ideal for autumn!

White piping on the sides, shaped fit for ladies, full zip, Velcro adjustable cuffs, two pockets with zips, washes beautifully in the washing machine!

Special order only. Let us know (Judy 083 610 2104 judy@vybrant.co.za) Price R700 for members. Ladies and Gents S to XXL

MEMBERS NEWS!

What Vybrant Members have been up to in December 2017

Please keep us updated with your competition results and any other exciting news (and enclose photographs!).

Please send to Judy Vertue: Vybrant Secretary Email: judy@vybrant.co.za

QUESTION: What do you do with your Advanced Dressage Horse on Boxing Day?

ANSWER: You take him on the Boxing Day Hunt, of course!



Says Vybrant Member and Advanced Dressage Rider, Patrick Brown, "I had an even better time than I could possibly have imagined. Woody had a ball – so happy and so easy to control in his snaffle bridle and with his special Christmas hat! We had such fun."

The day became gradually more mellow with Patrick's special blend of stirrup cup!



Youth Champs, Kyalami Park, December 2017

Vybrant Members and Judges, Moya Truter (Eastern Cape) and Judy Vertue judged at Youth Champs. In spite of the pouring rain, there was great team spirit and the organising

committee worked really hard to ensure that all the arenas were rideable.



Olympia December 2017

By Sue Horne

I had the good fortune to attend the FEI Judges Refresher Seminar at the Olympia International CDI in London. FEI 5* Judge, Isobel Wessels, who used to live in South Africa, was the Course Director and had a very fresh approach to the content of the seminar.

Isobel was always very particular in that the transitions need to be clear and executed correctly. All too often these are overlooked by both rider and judge.

Another interesting discussion was about the FEI's unanimous decision (except for two federations) to reject the Hi/Lo Drop Score. Unfortunately the focus had been very much on this aspect and the removal of the collectives was not given enough attention. This was passed and many federations are not supportive of this move. As I understand it, the IDOC will work very hard this year to have the change reversed and the collectives brought back **continued on next page.....**

Your Newsletter : Your Club : We always welcome new ideas!

Olympia continued

They may not be in the same format but there is a lot of unhappiness amongst the FEI judges that only the rider mark has been retained. The reasoning for removing the collectives was to eliminate bias. But they have left in the most significantly biased mark.

The course ran over two days and consisted of a theory session on both days and then a practical session while watching the Grand Prix on the first day and the Grand Prix Freestyle on the second day. Each competition consisted of 16 horses and it was interesting in that many of the really big names did not compete this year. Patrick Keitel, Emile Faure and Edward Gal dominated the podium on both days. There seems to be many new partnerships and Isobel was very knowledgeable on the history of the horses.



Another exceptional highlight were the two Master Classes presented by Carl Hester. Carl presented while Charlotte rode. They have two new young horses which will be competing next year and are very strong contenders for the World Equestrian Games and the Olympics. As always Carl's emphasis on the establishment of the happy, supple horse /athlete was very evident in the quality of the training of these superb horses.

I look forward to watching them in action next year.

YOUR EDUCATION CORNER : CIRCLES

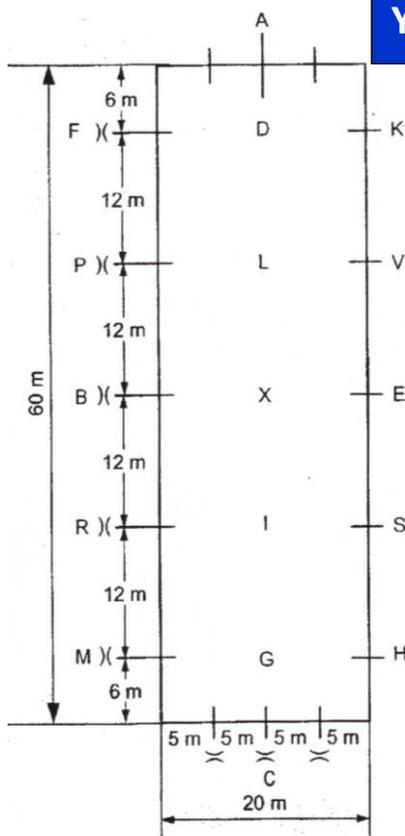


Figure 1

Get those extra marks by riding your circles accurately!

To do this, you must know the dimensions of the arena! (All in Appendix DS/1 and DS/2 in the DSA Rules on the DSA Website). **Figure 1**

Common faults seen by the judges:

* EX half circle right 10m, XB half circle left 10m.

The horse should be straight for an instant over X before changing direction.



*From a judge sitting at the side at E or B, we often see circles and half circles which are more like ovals and not of equal size!

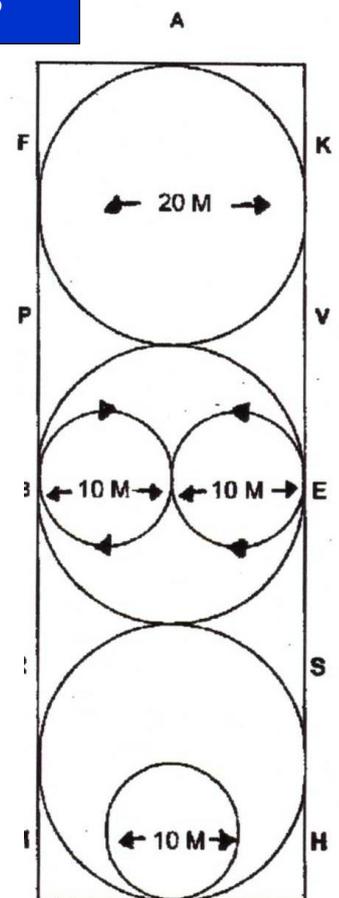


Figure 2

*Remember a three loop serpentine is three half 20m circles. So often (from the judge at C), in a serpentine beginning at A, we see the horse being ridden into the corners at H and M, (so the half circle becomes more like a 'square') whereas the horse should touch the side of the arena 4 m before H (remember it is 6m from H to the corner, so that makes 10m, which is the equal point to touch the side in a 20m circle (see Figure 2)