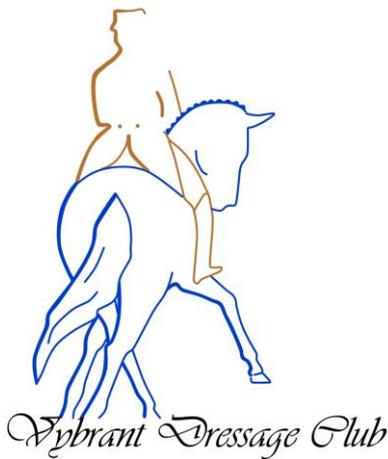




NEWSFLASH



15 December 2017



COLLECTIVE MARKS AT END OF DRESSAGE TESTS.

Reprinted below is excerpt of a letter sent by Stephen Clarke, FEI Dressage Judge General, to all FEI Judges on 15 December 2017
(At the time of issuing this Newsflash, a decision has not yet been made by DSA concerning whether this should or should not be applied to the DSA tests)

Dear FEI Judges,

As you are probably aware, various alterations to our judging system were voted on at the recent FEI General Assembly. The Hi/Low proposal was rejected. However, the alteration of the collective marks, changing from the former four 'collectives' into just one score for the Rider Mark was approved and will come into effect on January 1st 2018.

There has been considerable opposition to this change from many of the judges and from some National Federations. But this alteration was voted on and approved at the FEI General Assembly. Therefore, whether we like it or not, it will not be altered now.

I have enquired if the one remaining collective mark could be called 'General Impression' rather than 'Rider mark', but have learnt that this terminology was not the proposal that was voted for, so it will now remain as simply the 'Rider mark'.

As Judge General, I have been asked by some colleagues for advice on how to handle this one remaining score...

The rule and the directive for awarding the 'Rider Mark' remains unaltered.

"Rider's position and seat; correctness and effect of the aids"

Therefore this score will be awarded as it was before, taking into account the rider's position and seat, and the way in which they are able to influence the horse in order to produce an expressive, harmonious and fault free performance. If they are successful in producing such a performance they will be awarded a high mark.

However, if the test is shown with several faults, or there is discord between rider and horse with obvious tension and resistance, the score will obviously be diminished, as it was previously.

Stephen Clarke.
FEI Judge General.

~~Paces
(freedom
and regularity)~~

~~Impulsion
(desire to move forward,
elasticity of the steps,
suppleness of the back
and engagement of the
hind quarters)~~

~~Submission
(attention and confidence,
harmony, lightness and ease of
the movements, straightness,
acceptance of the bridle and
lightness of the forehand)~~

Rider's position and
seat; correctness
and effect of the
aids.



From your Vybrant Team