**ADC Directive on Levels, Starting Possibilities and new EA FEI Medium Tour Freestyle effective 1 May 2014**

**INTRODUCTION**

1. This Directive is effective 1 May 2014.
2. The new Intermediate A, B and EA BTELT have been well received by riders and are perfect for the training program of the horses I have judged in them.  It is clear that these tests have been very much needed as the bridge between Intermediate I and GP level.
3. However the ADC has had many questions from organisers of official shows how to develop their schedules with these new tests and keep within the rules of “no more than 2 FEI level competitions per day, may include a freestyle”.  And, most importantly, respect the level of the combinations and not over face them, but provide appropriate competition.
4. ADC has also developed an Intro GP “Medium “ Tour Freestyle.  It is attached. This has been developed jointly with FEI judge Katrina Wuest and will be a proposal to the FEI Dressage Committee for 2015. This will be effective from 1 May 2014.

This directive is intended to assist OCs and Clubs to develop their competition schedules with clear guidelines for riders.

1. **Definition of Levels**

At present on p 10 of the Rule Book,  there is a definition of Levels for Official Tests.

ADC has agreed to update that from 1 May 2014 to as follows.

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| **Definition of Level** | **Tests for Level** |
| Preliminary | 3 current EA tests |
| Novice | 3 current EA tests |
| Elementary | 3 current EA tests |
| Medium | 3 current EA tests |
| Advanced | 3 current EA tests |
| Prix St. Georges | FEI PSG |
| Intermediate I | FEI Intermediate I |
| FEI Medium Tour | FEI Intermediate A, FEI Intermediate B,  EA BTELT |
| Intermediate II | FEI Intermediate II |
| GP | GP  GP Special  FEI U25 Test |

1. **Changes to Rule 1.15.1- Starting Possibilities**

Below are details of the starting possibilities and respective Freestyle Test that riders can enter in EA competitions from 1 May 2014.

**Remember these EA Rules only apply to tests conducted nationally and not at FEI Sanctioned shows (CDIS) where the FEI Rules and starting possibilities at Article 422.3.8 apply.**

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| **Two (2) Levels of National Competition permitted**  **To be read in conjunction with Definitions of Levels for clarification** | **Level of Freestyle Can Compete In** |
| Preparatory/Preliminary | Nil |
| Preliminary/Novice | Novice |
| Novice/Elementary | Novice or Elementary |
| Elementary/Medium | Elementary or Medium |
| Medium/Advanced | Medium or Advanced |
| Advanced/Prix St Georges | Advanced |
| Prix St Georges/Intermediate I | Intermediate |
| Intermediate I / FEI Medium Tour | Intermediate or EA FEI Medium Tour Freestyle (Not Both) |
| FEI Medium Tour  /Intermediate II | EA Medium Tour Freestyle |
| Intermediate II/ U 25 GP | Grand Prix FS |
| Intermediate II/ Grand Prix, GPS | Grand Prix FS |

1. The ADC has developed the attached **EA FEI Medium Tour Freestyle**

The ADC trusts that this will provide clear direction for organising committees and clubs. There will be an opportunity for feedback from SDAs at the annual meeting between ADC and SDAs in October with the view to including these directives into the 2015 Dressage Rule Book.

Regards,

Mary

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