



14th July 2011

Dressage National Technical Committee

CIRCULAR TO JUDGES

RULE CHANGES: INTRODUCTION OF HALF MARKS

In view of the FEI decision to allow half marks in their tests, both for movements and collective marks, a decision was made by the SANEF Dressage Technical Committee to follow suit. Judges have asked for some guidance in the use of half marks.

The FEI reasoning for introducing the half marks was with the aim of increasing the total score and also to increase the variation between competitor's marks.

At the judging trials where half marks were introduced for the first time, the judges reported that they only used half-marks to increase the mark and never to reduce it.

Half marks should not be used by inexperienced judges in order to 'sit on the fence' between two marks, especially between the marks "5" and "6".

For your information Germany, the Netherlands and USA are only using the half marks for FEI tests. They are not part of their national rules at this stage. The use of half marks in our SANEF tests will be reviewed after a year

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