

GUIDELINES FOR PARA EQUESTRIAN DRESSAGE/CARRIAGE DRIVING CLASSIFICATION



- What is classification?* Classification is an attempt to ensure fair competition. The rider's impairment is assessed resulting in a functional profile which places the rider in one of four competition grades. Grade I is for more severely impaired riders, Grade IV is for the least severely impaired riders.
- Who can classify?* **Physical disability:** FEI/EA accredited para equestrian classifier (physiotherapist or doctor)
Visual Impairment: Ophthalmologist or optician (International Blind Sports Association procedure)
Intellectual impairment (AUSRAPID system): Signature of two qualified psychologists required. Not eligible for Para equestrian Competition run under EA/FEI Rules.
- Who needs to be classified?* Desirable for riders who wish to compete at dressage or carriage driving at state level, essential for national or international level competition.
- When do you need to be classified?* 6-12 months prior to competition at state, national or international level.
- What next?* Details of accredited classifiers can be obtained from Equestrian Australia. For Vision Impairment contact your state Blind Sports Association. The rider or their agent should contact the accredited classifier or appropriately qualified professional directly to arrange an appointment for assessment. Riders must be aware of the application for classification. Certificate stating full medical diagnosis is required.
- What happens after the assessment?* The rider will be notified of the results of their classification and receive a copy of their Para Equestrian Rider Classification Card (physical disability). A copy is sent to Equestrian Australia. A National Para equestrian Identity card will be issued to the rider by Equestrian Australia
- Can riders appeal against the classification decision?* Yes! Must be lodged in writing to Equestrian Australia within two weeks of notification of the results of classification.

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