

# eDressage & eScribing

## A QUICK GUIDE FOR SCRIBES & JUDGES

by Connie Murray for the Dressage Queensland Officials Subcommittee 2019

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## eDressage by Blackhorse One - Background

Black Horse One has developed a simple, user friendly scoring system for dressage shows in the form of an electronic scoresheet running on iPad & the SAP Cloud Platform.

This system can be used for National (EA) tests, FEI dressage tests, Young Horse classes & Freestyle competitions.

eDressage provides a full replacement for traditional paper sheets, by providing a simple & intuitive interface to allow the judges' marks & comments to be recorded & transmitted in real-time to the scorers. The judges can sign the test sheet either with a finger or Apple pencil & the full, final result is available to the spectators, commentators & rider, usually within seconds of the final salute. This saves both time, & with the comments being transmitted securely to the database, eliminates the need for a separate paper scribe. Also, because the electronic sheets are signed by the judges, the final results for the class is ready shortly after the final rider has left the arena.

eDressage automatically incorporates the judges signaling system, allowing the ground jury to discretely communicate in situations where it is necessary (such as when the C judge needs to signal an Error of Course to the rest of the Ground Jury), all in real time with the press of a button.

Blackhorse One will always conduct training sessions for organisers & scribes prior to events.

Further information can be obtained from <https://blackhorse-one.com>

The Australian contact for Blackhorse One is Aengus Wright who can be contacted via email at [aengus@blackhorse88.com](mailto:aengus@blackhorse88.com) or by telephoning +61433033648

## eDressage eScribing – The Basic Process

- Check the iPad is powered on & the program is functioning.
- Test sheets are sent to the scribes' computer from the Control Centre once the C judge rings the bell for the next competitor (or prior in the case of the first competitor)
- Check that the name of the horse & rider is correct for that test.
- There is a box for the MARK & a box for the COMMENT for each individual movement & the COLLECTIVE(S).
- The system defaults to the mark first for each movement but this can be overridden for judges who prefer to give comments before marks (see below).
- Ask your judge if they prefer to give the comment before the mark or the mark before the comment. Open the MENU via the left bottom button & select "jump to MARK first" or "jump to COMMENT first". This setting will remain for all other tests in the competition unless changed manually. It can be changed anytime you choose.
- Tap on the box to enter the mark/comment for the individual movement.
- To REMOVE or DELETE a comment or mark, select DELETE or BACKSPACE to remove the comment in that box & then retype the correct comment or mark.
- When each box is completed press ENTER or TAB to go to the next box. Alternatively (anytime) you may use touchscreen method to select the box you wish to enter information into).
- When in doubt (or pressed for time), get the SCORE number in as a priority. Comments can be added later.
- The marks & comments are sent to the Control Centre in real time.

- If an ERROR OF COURSE occurs, open up the MENU via the button on the bottom left of the screen & press ADD ERROR OF COURSE. This will deduct the required amount from the final score & alert the other judges that an EOC has been given by you. Write “EOC” or “ERROR” in the comment box corresponding to the movement in which the error occurred. If the EOC is not agreed upon, by all judges, it can be removed in the same way it was added, via the MENU.
- If BLOOD is spotted the judge can ALERT the C JUDGE via the MENU by choosing the “I SEE BLOOD” button. This can be removed in the same way, if necessary.
- There is also a function via the MENU to ALERT the C JUDGE to other penalties (such as gear, time, technical errors). Select the ADD TECHNICAL PENALTY button, this can be removed in the same way
- If your judge thinks a horse may be IRREGULAR & warrant elimination then the I SEE A PROBLEM WITH THE GEAR button should be selected through the MENU – this alerts all the other judges.
- Your judges score trend will appear in the top right-hand corner. Other judges trend scores are NOT shown
- When the test is finished, it is important for the judge to check the marks & quickly submit these. The judge is still able to add comments after the actual marks have been submitted -but only until the point where the C judge rings the bell for the next competitor & the next rider’s sheet is downloaded from the Control Centre
- For the COLLECTIVE(S) the judge can make a general comment or individual comments (using the touchscreen method). There is also a GENERAL REMARKS box in addition to individual collective(s) remarks box(es), should the judge wish to use this.
- If you want to correct anything prior to SUBMITTING, then use the touchscreen method to select the box in which you wish to make the change & proceed to make the change.
- SCORES cannot be changed once submitted, remarks can still be added until the next test sheet appears.
- The judge must SIGN OFF the test sheet using their finger or an Apple iPencil.
- The next sheet will be downloaded once the C judge rings the bell for the next horse. Comments on the previous horse now cannot be added at this point.
- Be quick, accurate & concise. Feel free to adopt your own (logical) abbreviations for comments; the riders will work it out as there is specific language associated with dressage.
- If anything has to be changed (that you cannot change at that point or made an error that you have realised post the submission of the test) then contact the Control Centre immediately after the test.

## FAQs

**Is there a video about how to use eScribe?** A short YouTube video is available online at [https://youtu.be/F\\_XkrEts6Dk](https://youtu.be/F_XkrEts6Dk)

**Will judges be given a hard copy of the dressage tests, so they can follow the movements?** This is highly recommended as it may be easier for the judge to follow the test via a hard copy. The eTest does not have the directives listed (which judges may wish to refer to during the test). Access to a hard copy is necessary should there be a catastrophic failure of the system in the middle of a test. A minimum of 2 hard copies of the tests should be supplied to the scribe, with other copies available if necessary.

**What happens if the wrong rider/horse name comes up on the computer screen & the test is about to start?** Alert the judge at C, who will contact the Control Centre via the steward. The rider & horse names can be changed after the test, always attempt to run the tests to time. This problem can be fixed immediately after the test is finished.

**Do marks have to be entered with decimal places?** NO. Decimal places do not have to be entered for full or half marks. For example, if you enter 7 it will format to 7.0. If you enter 75 it will format to 7.5. This is the same for YH & freestyle tests.

**If the judge enters the comment before the mark or the mark before the comment, will hitting ENTER or TAB take the scribe automatically to the other box for that movement?** The system defaults to the mark first for each movement but this can be overridden for judges who prefer to give comments before marks. It is best to setup your

computer to jump to “mark” or “comment” first, depending on your judge’s preference. Ask your judge if they prefer to give the comment before the mark or the mark before the comment. Open the MENU via the left bottom button & select “jump to MARK first” or “jump to COMMENT first”. This setting will remain for all other tests in the competition unless changed manually (which you can choose to do at anytime). You always have the option to manually tap on the box to enter the information.

**What happens if a mark is omitted (a mark box is left empty)? Can you submit a test with a mark missing?** NO. The system won’t allow you to submit an incomplete test sheet. The system will alert you to which mark is missing & this will be highlighted. Fill in the box & submit.

**What happens if a rider makes two errors of course, which would entail elimination?** The software does not automatically eliminate the rider. This will be handled by the C Judge & the Control Centre.

**What if a mark is placed in the wrong box?** Use the touchscreen operation to highlight the box in which the error occurs & correct the error.

**What happens for “use of the voice” situations?** Put “USE OF VOICE” in the comment box for the movement in which the voice was heard, the judge will give the appropriate mark.

**What do judges do if BLOOD is observed?** Go to MENU (bottom left button) Select I SEE BLOOD. This will alert ALL judges. The C judge will deal with the situation. The alert can be removed via the MENU.

**What happens if a judge believes a horse is IRREGULAR and/or should be ELIMINATED for other reasons?** In this instance, the judge alerts the C judge via the MENU (bottom left button) by selecting the I SEE A PROBLEM WITH THE GEAR option. This option is for generic problems which may arise & does not deduct points.

**What do judges do if they observe a technical penalty (ie incorrect gear, boots on, whip not dropped etc)?** Through the MENU (bottom left button) select ADD TECHNICAL PENALTY. Make a note in GENERAL REMARKS as to the nature of the penalty.

**What if there is a change in draw order & a rider comes in out of order?** Contact the Control Centre via the judge at C. If the C judge starts the test then the horse & rider names can be changed by the Control Centre immediately after the test is completed

**What if a judge observes an Error of Course? What if the judges don’t all have an Error of Course?** Using this system, all judges have the opportunity to select ERROR OF COURSE via the MENU. This alerts ALL of the other judges that a judge has observed an EOC. The C judge will then deal with the situation. If an EOC is not agreed upon then the judges can remove the EOC via the MENU button (bottom left).

**What if the system crashes during a test? Will there be backup hard copies for the scribe to continue with until the problem is rectified?** Hard copies of the test be available for scribes to continue on should there be a crash in the system.

**How do judges sign the eTest Sheet?** Judges sign the sheet with their finger or an Apple pencil.

**How do riders access their results?** A pdf file will be sent via email to each rider. If the rider does not have access to email then hard copies of the sheets may be requested from the Organising Committee.