

## **Ponies Made Easy for Event Organisers**

To promote development all Official EFA competitions are open to both horses and ponies.

However the competitions are separated into pony or horse sections with the ponies having either a separate competition or being grouped together at the beginning or the end of the horse competition.

Although entries at this stage are relatively small, there is a great deal of interest and it will not be many years before these competitions will cover their costs. Currently they are being provided to assist with the development of pony dressage in Australia.

Official pony dressage runs under the 2008 EFA National Dressage Rules and subsequent updates. The rules for pony competition are the same as those for horses with the following exceptions:

- Ponies measure 148cms without shoes or 149cms with shoes
- Ponies are to be grouped together either at the beginning or the end of a draw (or at another time if the OC requires).

Pony competition is official and earns grading points so results must be returned by the event secretary to your state dressage authority. However, if pony competitions are restricted in any way e.g. by the age of the rider then it is an Associate competition and therefore does not attract grading points.

**Entry Forms** - Make sure that entry forms provide a box that pony competitors can tick to indicate they are a pony. Alternatively, the entry form could e.g. Comp 1: Horse 1.3; Comp 1A: Pony 1.3 etc.

**Entry fees** should be the same for both horse and pony competitions. Organisers need to make it clear in the prize schedule whether or not prizes and or prize money is on offer for the pony competitions.

**Championships** - In relation to awarding Championships there is no need to award separate horse and pony championship awards. Therefore the horse and pony results could be combined to determine the Champion at each level.