

Phrases for Judging Dressage Christophe Hesse (Germany), Karin Krueger (Denmark) and Lorraine Macdonald (Canada)

I was fortunate to collect these comments while sitting in at dressage events with
Christophe Hesse at Hartpury UK and Karin Krueger and
Lorraine Macdonald in Malaysia

Christophe Hesse in Sydney

Stretch the neck to balance the body

Purring is opera to our ears

Quiet snorting is free music for us

Rider has to create a wellness feeling

A horse short in neck is short in the paces

High hocks and long hind legs = out behind

Mouth is a mirror for judges i.e. happy or unhappy

Positive tension - gives purpose to the movement

Ask 'when you have a good feeling'

Balance in motion

Positive communication

Rider has to be a physiotherapist

As riders we are guests on our horses

Keep small fingers together - thumb like a roof

Sympathetic transitions/ sympathetic contact

Horse seeks the contact - rider accepts the contact

Karen Krueger (Denmark) & Lorraine Macdonald (Canada) FEI Judges World Dressage Challenge in Malaysia

Keep him consistently forward to the hand

When more balanced on the hind legs he'll be more mobile and light

Keep the suspension & jump in the hindquarters

Balance on the hind legs

More honest through the body (for a horse which is mainly a leg-mover, not a back mover)

The flying changes are an expression of the quality of the canter

Imprecise

More convincing

Elements of collection not evident (engagement, balance, self carriage)

Rider has balance, now needs more feel for jump, suspension and connection

You need to be a multi-tasker when riding

Rider should feel the wrong lead

Not confident to go into the rider's hand