



## International Mounted Games Association Rules Committee

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### *Rule Change Request Document*

Name:	<b>Nikki Carter</b>
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Country:	<b>IMGA Rules Committee</b>
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#### Summary of Change Requested:

To allow the use of treeless saddles in competition.

#### Current Rule Book Wording:

GR4.2. Leather or synthetic saddles with a full tree must be used. These must be complete, at the start of each race, with stirrups and a girth with two buckles on each side.

#### Suggested New Rule Book Wording:

GR4.2. Leather or synthetic saddles of English design, fully treed or treeless, with full length lateral base panels and a central gullet must be used. These must fit the horse appropriately and be complete, at the start of each race, with stirrups and a girth with two buckles on each side.

#### Reason for Change Request:

The design of treeless saddles has improved significantly and I have received many requests from riders that the modern designs could be used as they are in other equestrian sports including show jumping. I have consulted with manufacturers of the best designs, which are virtually identical to treed saddles, to formulate wording which would allow the use of good treeless saddles whilst not allowing the use of treeless pads which do not give any spine clearance.

Such saddles can be seen at

<https://safeshop.solutionsaddles.com/index.php?route=common/home&qclid=CKDbI8-gptECFXqW0wodOI8AZg>

**For Internal Use Only:**

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Reference:	2017 - 11
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Submission Date:	05/04/2017
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Decision Date:	22/04/2017
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Votes	
Jens Martin	<b>In Favour</b>
Valentin Vieilledent	<b>In Favour</b>
Nikki Carter	<b>In Favour</b>
Margaret Welsby	<b>In Favour</b>
Dafydd Leach	<b>In Favour</b>
Iain Hopkins	<b>In Favour</b>
Total In Favour:	<b>6</b>
Total Not In Favour:	<b>0</b>

Result:	Change Accepted
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Actual Adopted New Rule Book Wording:

GR4.2. Leather or synthetic saddles, fully treed or treeless, with full length lateral base panels and a central gullet must be used. These must fit the horse appropriately and be complete, at the start of each race, with stirrups and a girth with two buckles on each side.

Reason for Decision:

No reason not to accept these saddles.

Implementation Date:	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2018
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