



Society of Equine Behaviour Consultants

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**Prof Paul McGreevy
Faculty of Veterinary Science
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20th June 2015

Dear Professor McGreevy,

Thank you for your request for a comment on behalf of the Society of Equine Behaviour Consultants (SEBC) regarding ISES's position statement on restrictive nosebands.

SEBC's position on cavesson nosebands is that these should be fitted so as not to cause discomfort or distress to the horse.

SEBC recognises that this is traditionally achieved by ensuring that a cavesson noseband hangs approximately 'two fingers' below the cheekbones and is fastened loosely enough to fit 'two fingers' between the cavesson and the nasal midline.

Obviously there is considerable scope for variation in this traditional method of measurement and an internationally agreed gauge such as that offered by ISES that could be adopted by FEI would be very helpful here.

SEBC would support a statement that cavesson nosebands fitted so that a horse may not open its mouth and chew should not be permitted in dressage competitions and that riders should be encouraged to adopt the same standards when training.

With regards,

Felicity George