

# Helmets

Please note that where Horse Safety Australia mentions that riders must wear ASNZ3838 helmets *OR EQUIVALENT*

this refers to the American helmets: ASTM F 1163, or PAS 015 (2011) and those EN 1384 helmets **with a Kitemark**

NOTE: The **EN1384** helmets are NOT **all** currently acceptable...read on below.....and will be withdrawn from the UK lists of accepted helmets at the end of 2015.



Horse Safety Australia considers that if you are using the European standard helmets then ONLY the European “**BS EN1384” with this ‘Kitemark’**” (above) are acceptable . Standards Australia has stated that the monitoring processes for the (non kitemarked) EN1384 helmets are not equivalent to the Australian 3838 helmet requirements, so just the designation CE EN1384 alone is not considered enough by Horse Safety Australia. The extra certification is also recommended by the British Horse Society and the CE EN 1384 certification will be withdrawn completely at the end of 2015 completely...The current PAS 015 standard will continue.

## See BHS announcement below: EN1384 helmet certification to be withdrawn at the end of 2015.

**“The EU Commission has announced that the European equestrian riding helmet standard BS EN 1384 is to be withdrawn from the Official Journal of the European Union (OJ) at its next publication.**

This means that hat manufacturers will no longer be able to CE-mark their hats using this standard and will need to recertify to a specification currently being developed.

The withdrawal of the standard has no effect on riding hats already on the market. Once a hat has been manufactured to a standard, it will not become non-standard after withdrawal and can continue to be sold and worn. If riders have hats certified to EN 1384, they can continue to use them unless stated otherwise by rules of competition. **(Horse Safety Australia: our view is still that they should still have a Kitemark to be safe...and see below, these helmets will not be accepted by the BHS in competitions starting 2016)**

The existing EN 1384 standard is currently in the process of revision. The withdrawal is due in part to the European working group responsible for the hat standard failing to reach an agreement on this overdue revision and subsequently causing the commission to take this drastic step.

In future, CE-marked riding hats will have to be successfully tested and certified against an alternative specification to allow CE certification to continue. Companies can choose which they use and could include the new VG1 specification, the revised EN 1384 once published and PAS 015. Riding hats cannot be CE-marked solely to Snell, ASTM F1163 or AS/NZ 3838: 2006 without additional testing.

Although initially being promised a period of transition by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), the industry has now received news that this option has been retracted. This means that manufacturers will need to re-certify their BS EN 1384 hats to the revised specification sooner than expected.

As a result of these recent changes, the disciplines and riding bodies within the UK will be reconsidering their hat rules for the future. Full details of the changes currently available are listed below.

**The British Horse Society** will permit BS EN 1384 hats in 2015 but not thereafter. From 1 January 2016, hats made solely to BS EN 1384 will not be permitted for use in BHS Approved Centres.

**British Eventing** will permit BS EN 1384 hats in 2015 but not thereafter. All hats will be re-tagged in 2016, at which stage none made solely to BS EN 1384 will be tagged or permitted for use.

**British Riding Clubs** will permit BS EN 1384 hats in 2015 but not thereafter. All hats will be re-tagged in 2016, at which stage no hats made solely to BS EN 1384 will be tagged or permitted for use.

**The Pony Club** will permit BS EN 1384 hats in 2015 but not thereafter. Full details of the revised hat tagging procedure will be communicated to the membership and volunteers shortly.

**British Dressage** will permit BS EN 1384 hats in 2015 but not thereafter.

**British Showjumping** will permit BS EN 1384 hats in 2015 but not thereafter.