

Judges Conference

18 February 2024



Which tack and equipment should be used in the
ring

JUST BECAUSE YOU CAN DOES NOT MEAN THAT YOU SHOULD !!

Dr Jane Nixon MRCVS



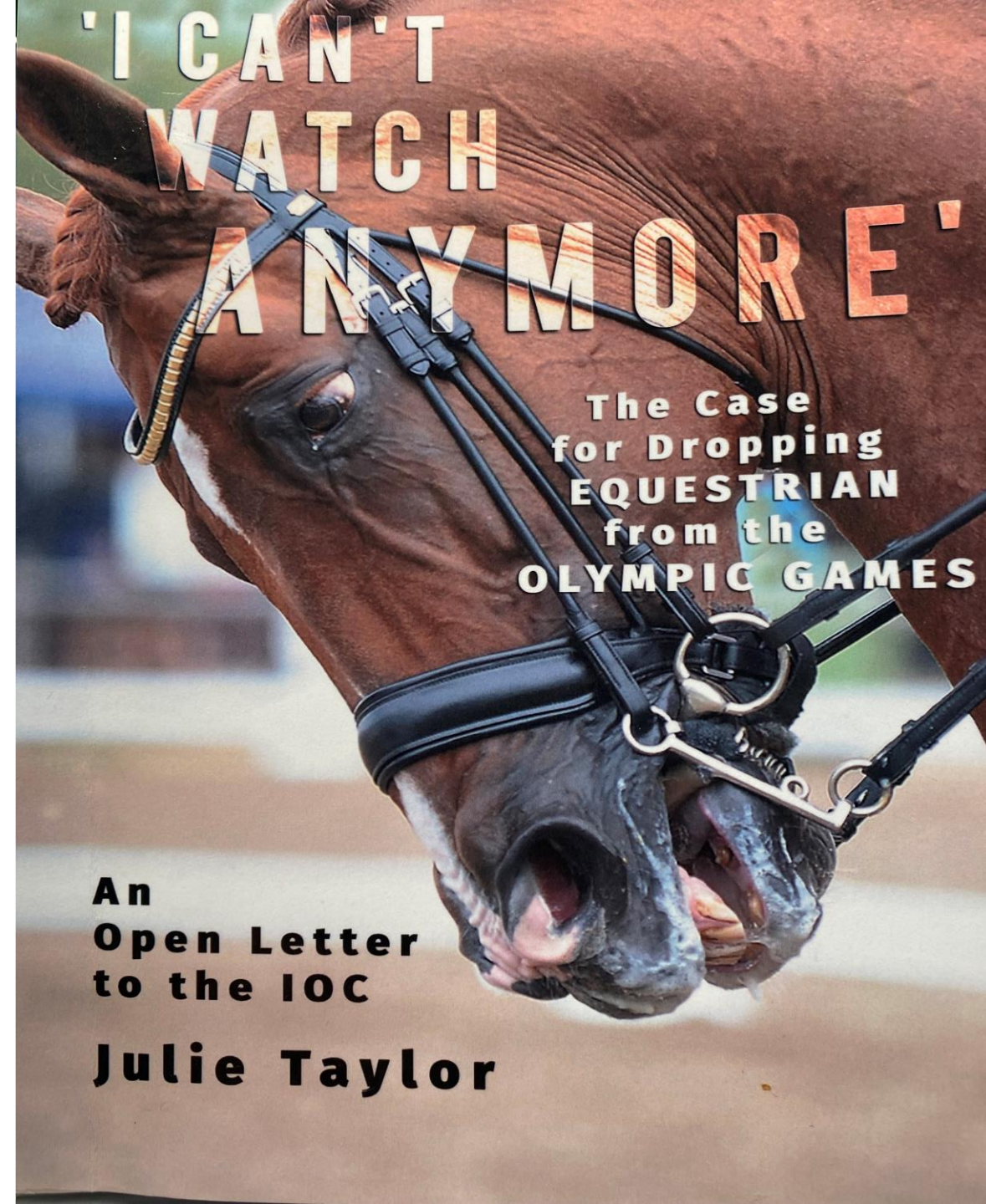
Most people don't
mind slow change

Most people dislike
sudden change

>> uncomfortable

Olympic Eventing Still Unconfirmed 2028

DATED 27 1 24 PIPPA CUCKSON





Heads of ridden horses with lameness/poor performance showing facial expressions shown to be reliable indicators musculo-skeletal pain

SUE DYSON

ETHOGRAM RIDDEN HORSE 2017



“Manage Change or Change will Manage You”

- Lead change, rather than being overwhelmed by it
- We cannot educate people into submission
- We cannot persuade people who do not wish to be persuaded
- We can listen , and listen and listen and so become trusted
- Discuss and encourage
 - people to make up their own minds
 - in the best interests of the horse

Judges : understand evolution and ongoing change

- Adapt good changes to judging
- Be oneself, do not follow popular political trend, rather scientific evidence



An Equestrian Aid

refers to the cues a rider gives to a horse to communicate what they want the horse or pony to do.

- - natural aids, which are the aids the rider possesses on their body
- - artificial aids which are designed to either amplify or replace a rider's natural aids,
- - equestrian equipment, encompasses a variety of gear used for riding and caring for horses

- Natural Aids
 - independent hands / core muscles / broken mouths
 - Fit to ride !
 - William Fox Pitt, Harry Ivens
 - Pony Club !

Artificial Aids : Questions ??

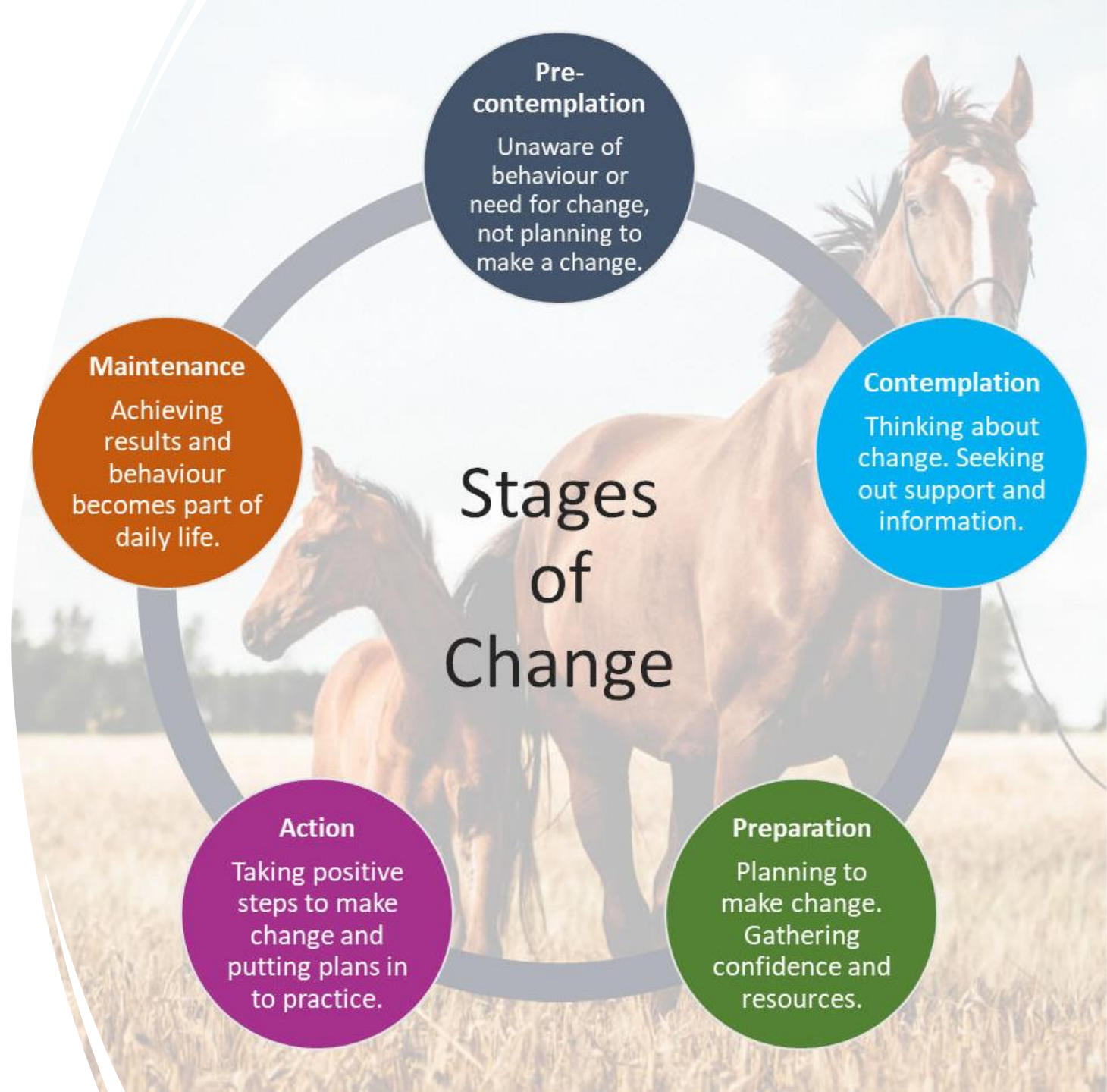
- Bits severity , doubles.
- Curb chains , too loose , too tight, bar.
- Nose bands : latest research re tightness
- Martingales
- Whips BHA BS BD BE
- Spurs

Palliative Equipment Questions ? ?

[makes a problem less severe , but does not solve the problem]

- Nose nets
- Tongue ties
- Ear plugs/ coveralls
- Cruppers
- Surgical shoeing/ pads

WHERE ARE YOU??



Judges

Your Senses,

Your Experience & the

Application of Science



Win, Win Situation for All !

What is the difference between Artificial Aids & Palliative Equipment?

What can any horse be ridden in, in the ring and not be penalised ?

- Let's Consider :-
 - Children safety
 - Horse Welfare
 - Ride Judge safety
 - Public Perception

WHAT DO YOU THINK ??



Thank you and discussion
please.