

Submission
No 17

**INQUIRY INTO GRANTING OF CONTRACT NUMBER
OoS17/18-021 BY THE OFFICE OF SPORT**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 28 August 2021

Partially
Confidential

I was one of the judges at the 2019 Australian National Dressage Championships held at the Sydney International Equestrian Center October 17th to 19th. On the Saturday 19th I was judging in the indoor arena between 15.20 and 17.55, and one of the international judges (I believe _____ was showing me a collection of hard balls of surface (possibly rubber or fibre?) approximately 2cm to 4cm in diameter she had collected off the surface in the competition arena. From memory she had collected maybe 8 to 10 of these balls just in the immediate vicinity of her judging table. I had a quick look in the vicinity where I was standing and was also picked up 3 balls of compacted surface material. I was surprised, as these balls could bruise a horse's sole or cause soft tissue damage if stood on, and I didn't feel it was appropriate for a competition surface, especially a competition of that calibre.