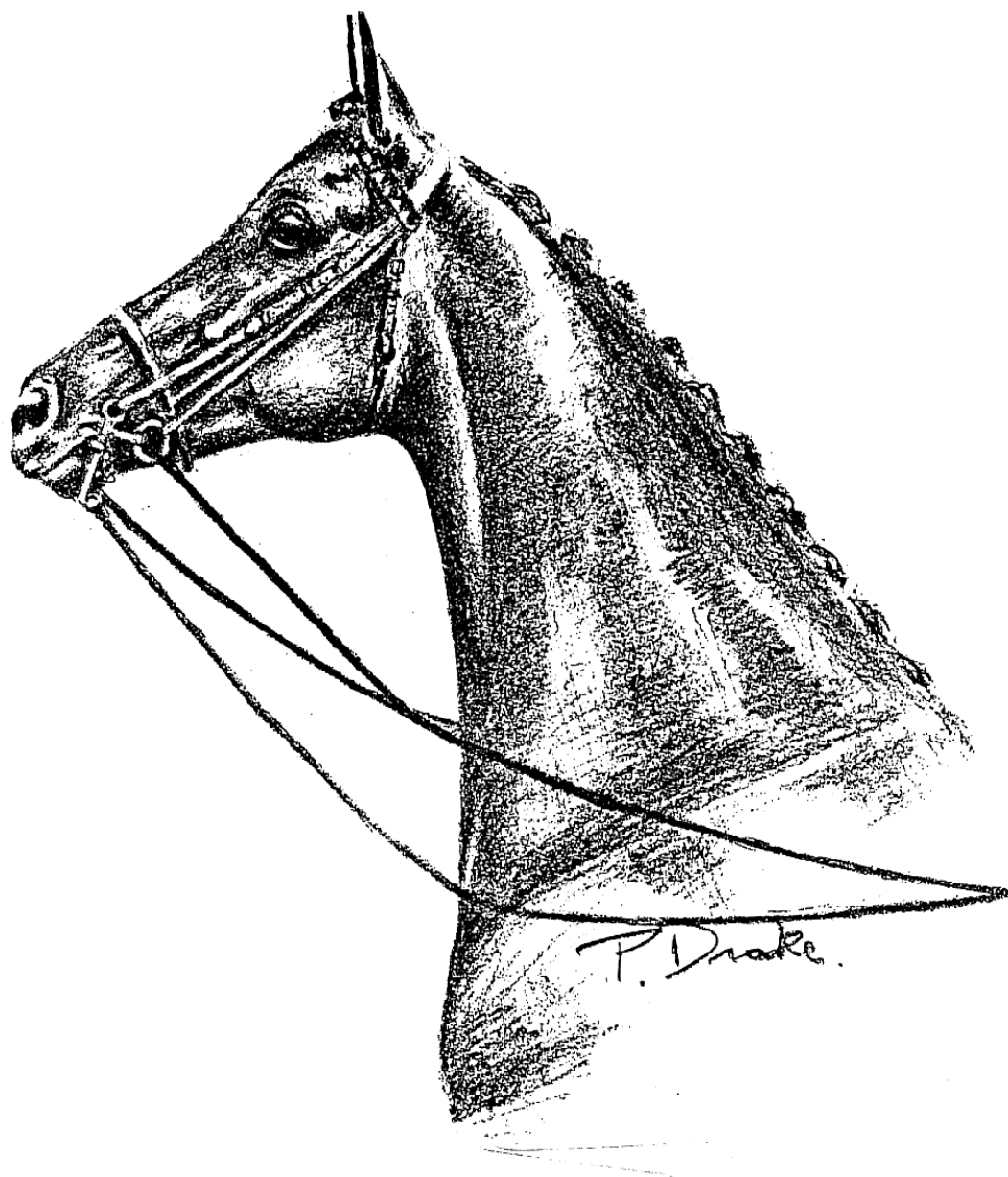


**BRITISH SHOW PONY SOCIETY**

**RULE BOOK**

**COMBINED & GOLD CUP CLASSES**



(RE-ISSUED 2019)



## GENERAL RULES

1. ELIGIBILITY -OPEN TO PONIES AND RIDERS WHO ARE ELIGIBLE TO COMPETE IN B.S.P.S. CLASSES.

### DRESS

2. As permitted in the current BSPS Rule & Show Handbook. Hats must be in accordance with B.S.P.S. Rules.  
A competitor whose hat comes off, or chin strap comes undone whilst competing must on penalty of elimination replace it or do it up before continuing. Compliance with Section B, C and D of the current B.S.P.S. Rule and Show Handbook

### CLASSES

3. Five Height Sections:-  
Not exceeding 122cms  
Exceeding 122cms not exc. 133cms  
Exceeding 133cms not exc. 143cms  
Exceeding 143cms and not exc. 153cms  
Exceeding 148cms and not exc. 158cms

Riders must be the correct age for the height of the pony they ride.

Mixed height classes are permitted i.e. 122cms and 133cms amalgamated and 143cms 153cms and 158cms, but competitors must jump in their correct height section and be the correct age for the height of the pony they ride. No pony may compete in more than one height class.

- a) Dressage (copies of Dressage tests are available from the BSPS Office. In addition they show the Scale of Marks and the penalties given for any Errors of course).
- b) Working Sports Pony replaces WHP as the marks are based on Style and Performance.
- c) Show Jumping, timed with penalties for exceeding the time allowed; (optional Joker fence).
- d) Whips are permitted for all phases but they must not exceed 75cms (30ins).
- e) A fall of pony or rider in any Section will result in elimination in that phase.

**Combined Training & Gold Cup Classes must consist of either:**

4.
  - I) Section A - Dressage & Section B - W.S.P.
  - OR
  - ii) Sec.A - Dressage, Sec. B - WSP & Sec. C – Jumping
5. Competitors may enter either or both Sections A or B with one or more ponies, if both sections A or B are entered this will automatically constitute an entry for the Combined Sections of A and B.
6. It is permitted to change Saddlery between Sections A and B (and Section C if applicable).

**JUDGES**

7. Section A from the BSPS or any recognised Dressage Panel  
Section B from the B.S.P.S. W.H.P. Panel.  
Section C from the British Show Jumping Panel.
8. The Dressage Test to be ridden before the W.S.P. Phase, except at the Championships Show when this may not be possible.
9. Rules for jumping the WSP and Show Jumping phases will be as for W.H.P. classes.
10. Shoeing and Leg protection for the WSP and Show Jumping Sections, will be as permitted within the BSPS WHP classes.
11. Height of fences for the WSP and Show Jumping phases will be in accordance with the current BSPS Rule & Show Handbook.

## SECTION A - DRESSAGE

1. The Test will be conducted and Judged in accordance with the B.S.P.S. Combined & Gold Cup Classes Rule Book.
2. To be ridden in a Snaffle with both hands. All transitions from one pace to another may be progressive, except where otherwise stated.
3. All trot work may be executed sitting or rising.
4. The Test to be ridden from memory. No outside assistance will be allowed.
5. **Entering the Arena**  
Competitors must not enter the arena until the judge has sounded the horn, rung the bell or signalled in some other way that he/she may start. Entering before the judge's signal may lead to elimination. Should the construction of the arena make it possible for the competitor to ride round the outside before the Judge's signal to enter is sounded, he may, on the instruction of the organiser and/or judge, ride inside the arena.
6. **Execution of Test.** All Movements must follow in the order laid down in the Test. In a movement which must be carried out at a certain point of the Arena, it is at the moment when the rider's body is above this point that the movement must be executed.
7. **Salute.** All riders must take the reins and whip, if carried, in one hand when saluting and drop the other hand down by the side and bow with their head only.
8. **Resistance**
  - (a) Any pony failing to enter the Arena within 60 seconds of the bell being sounded shall be eliminated.
  - (b) Any pony refusing to continue the Test for a period of 20 consecutive seconds during the course of a test shall be eliminated.
9. **Voice.**  
The use of the voice is prohibited and will be penalised by the loss of two marks from those that would have been awarded for the movement in which this occurred.

10. **Leaving the Arena.**

All riders must leave the Arena at 'A' after performing a Test. A pony is eliminated if during a Test, it leaves the Arena when the surround is 9in. high or more. Where the surround is less than 9in. and is marked by boards or similar, no marks shall be given for the movement when the pony places all four feet outside the Arena. Where the Arena is marked by a line only or intermittent boards it is left to the discretion of the Judges as to the marks deducted.

Any pony leaving the Arena not under control will be eliminated and for this purpose the Test begins when the pony enters at 'A' and finishes with the final halt.

11. **Errors of Course**

(a) A rider is judged to have made an 'error of course' (takes a wrong turn, omits a movement etc.) the judge warns the competitor by sounding the bell. The Judge indicates, if necessary, the point at which the competitor must take up the test again and the next movement to be executed.

However, in some cases when, although the competitor makes an 'error of course', the sounding of the bell would unnecessarily impede the fluency of the performance, it is up to the judge to decide whether or not to sound the bell. In fairness to the competitor, it is recommended that the bell should be rung when a movement is executed at the wrong marker if there is the possibility of a similar mistake when the movement is to be repeated on the other rein.

If the judge for any reason does not realise that one or more movements have been omitted until the competitor has left the arena he must:-

- i) Adjust as necessary the position of his marks and comments on his sheet to accord with the movements actually performed.
- ii) Give to each of the movements not executed a mark equal to the average of the collective marks entered at the bottom of his sheet.
- iii) Record the penalty for error of course.

When the rider makes an "error of the Test" (e.g. does not take the reins in one hand at the salute, etc.) they must be penalised as for an "error of course". The judge should put a star against the movement concerned and mark for an error at the bottom of the sheet.

12. **Penalties for Errors of Course**

Every error, whether rectified or not, every omission and every movement taken in the wrong order must be penalised as under:

|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| The first error by  | 2 marks     |
| The second error    | 4 marks     |
| The third error by  | 8 marks     |
| The fourth error by | Elimination |

N.B. The penalty marks are cumulative.

13. **Time**

The approximate time given on each test sheet is for guidance only. Time penalties are not awarded under B.S.P.S. rules.

14. **Scoring - Method**

Each Judge may allot from 0 - 10 points for each numbered movement. These marks are then added together and any penalty marks are deducted.

The total marks awarded in the Dressage are converted to a percentage for the scoring.

In the event of a tie, the Collectives will be the decider.

15. **Scale of Marks.** - Scale of Marks as follows:

|    |              |
|----|--------------|
| 10 | Excellent    |
| 9  | Very Good    |
| 8  | Good         |
| 7  | Fairly Good  |
| 6  | Satisfactory |
| 5  | Sufficient   |
| 4  | Insufficient |
| 3  | Fairly Bad   |
| 2  | Bad          |
| 1  | Very Bad     |
| 0  | Not Executed |

The marks 10 and 0 must be awarded where the performances warrant their use.

By 'Not Executed' is meant that nothing which is required has been performed.

16. Judges Sheets shall be given to competitors at the end of the Competition.

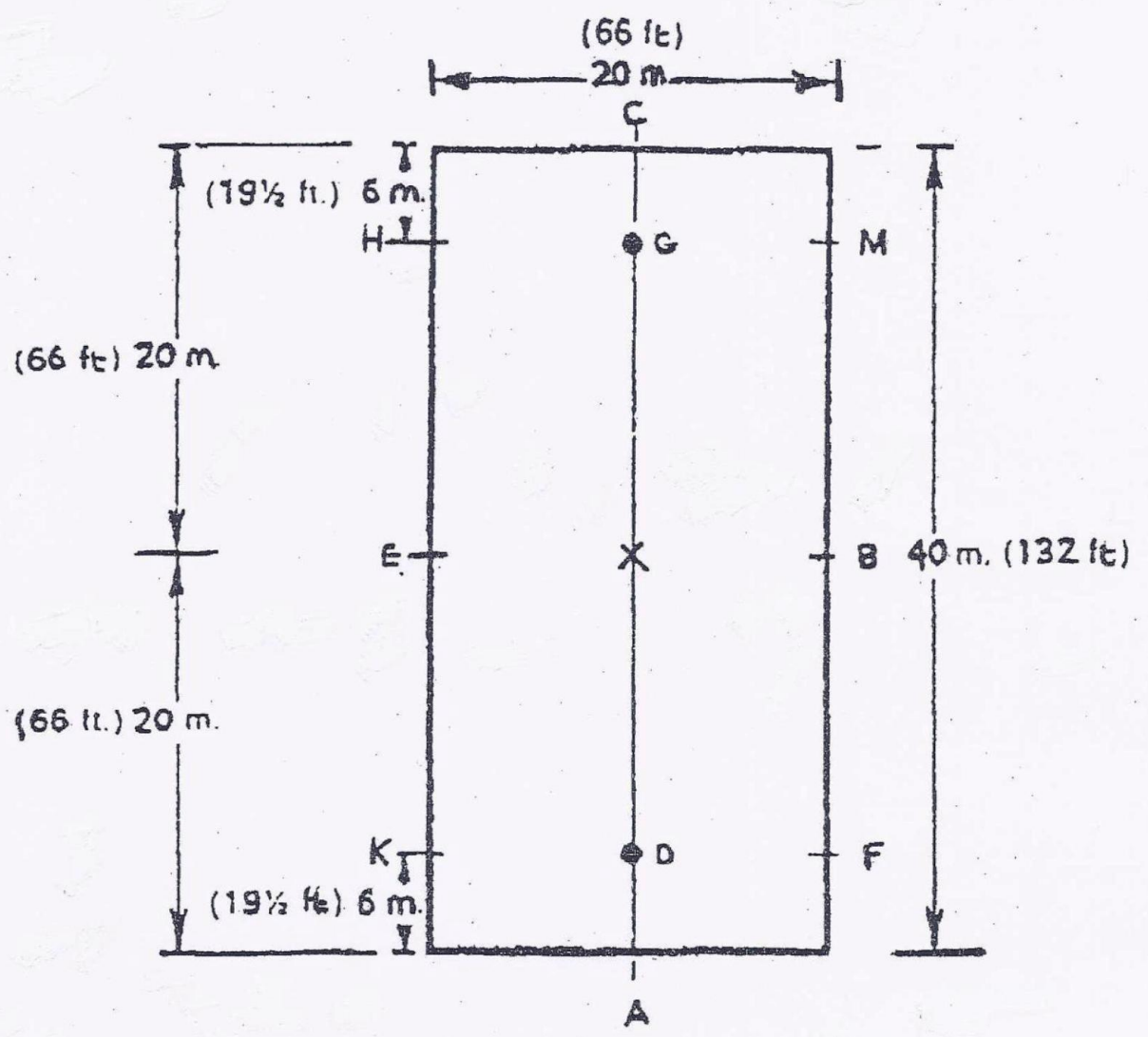
17. **Dress**  
Must be in accordance with B.S.P.S. Rules.
18. **Gloves**  
Must be worn.
19. **Spurs & Buttonholes**  
Neither Spurs or Buttonholes are permitted.
20. **Whips**  
Are permitted.
21. **Saddles**  
Black or brown saddles of plain English type with white, brown, dark blue or black girths. Competitors wishing to ride side saddle must notify the organiser of the competition at the time of entry.
22. **Numnahs, Saddle Cloths and Pads**  
Only White, Cream, navy blue, brown or black are permitted, with NO logo or advertising.
23. **Bits**  
Only snaffle bits that follow the configuration of those pictured on page 9 are permitted. They may be used with any of the cheeks or rings illustrated BUT any normal riding bit is permitted when riding the BSPS Walk and Trot Dressage Test.  
  
Mouthpieces may only be used in their manufactured form without any additional covering to or on any part. Different combinations of metal are allowed in one bit.
24. **Nosebands**  
One only of cavesson, drop, flash, grackle or Mexican permitted.  
Nosebands must not incorporate chain or rope.
25. **Other Tack**  
Micklem Multibridles are permitted.  
Breastplates and cruppers are allowed. Neckstraps may be worn  
*Nose Nets are permitted.*  
Martingales and bearing, side, check or running reins are not permitted.  
*Front, Hind and Overreach boots are not permitted in any dressage class*
26. **Fly Fringes, Gauzes and Ear Covers**  
Fly fringes, and ear covers which cover any part of the horse's head may be worn when riding in but not during a Test.  
Anti Fly Impregnated Browbands and Fly repellent Discs are permitted while riding in and during a Test.



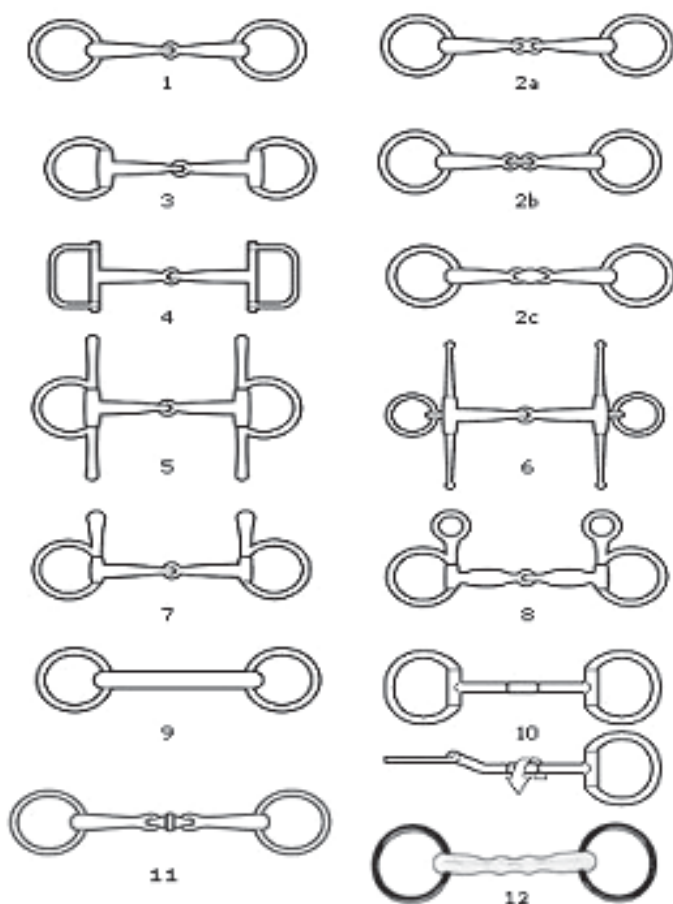
27. **Penalties for Contravening Rules**

Anyone entering the Arena with incorrect Saddlery, dress or equipment, riding the wrong Test for the appointed Class or in any other way not complying with the rules will be eliminated from the Class. However, if both Judge and Organiser agree, the competitor may be allowed to enter the Arena again later properly equipped and perform the Test Hors Concours.

1. Diagram of Arena.



29. **Diagram of Bits.**



Snaffle bridles only, see below for permitted bits.  
 (Note: Wilkie snaffles are not permitted)

1. Loose Ring Snaffle.
2. a) Snaffle with double-jointed mouthpiece (French Link)  
 b) Snaffle with double-jointed mouthpiece  
 c) Snaffle with double-jointed mouthpiece with Lozenge.
3. Egg-butt snaffle.
4. Racing snaffle D-ring.
5. Egg-butt snaffle with cheeks.
6. Loose ring snaffle with cheeks (Fulmer).
7. Snaffle with upper cheeks only.
8. Hanging cheek snaffle.
9. Straight bar snaffle. Permitted also with mullen mouth.
10. Snaffle with rotating mouthpiece.
11. Double jointed with roller in the centre.
12. Unjointed wavy snaffle (plastic or rubber only).

## **SECTION B - W.S.P. (Working Sports Pony)**

30. This Section to be ridden after Section A wherever possible.
31. To be run in accordance with B.S.P.S. Rules.
32. To consist of one round of a W.H.P. Course appropriate to the pony's Height Section and the type of class i.e. Novice or Open There will be no marks for Conformation.
33. **Height of Fences**  
See BSPS Rule & Show Handbook.

For certain Gold Cup competitions Course Builders will be permitted an extra 10cms increase to the maximum heights of fences, except in the 122cms Class.

34. **Marks and Penalties**

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Marking: Jumping                            | 60 marks  |
| Style & Manners                             | 30 marks  |
| Position of Seat and Effectiveness of Rider | 10 marks  |
| Total                                       | 100 marks |

**Penalties** (To be deducted from the Jumping marks)

|                       |              |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Knock Down            | 10 penalties |
| First Refusal         | 15 penalties |
| Second Refusal        | 20 penalties |
| Third Refusal         | Elimination  |
| Fall of Pony or Rider | Elimination  |

In the event of a tie, the Style & Manners mark will be the decider.

## **SECTION C - JUMPING**

35. This section will be open to the competitors gaining the highest amalgamated scores in the Dressage and WSP phases. The number of ponies required is at the discretion of the Show organisers. In the event of a tie, in the amalgamated scores, the Dressage mark, followed by the WSP style, will be the decider
- a) The competitors will jump in reverse order of merit.
  - b) The wearing of Show jumping jackets is permitted.
36. This jumping section will be judged on one round, over coloured fences. Not against the clock. The course will be timed. A Joker fence (10 bonus points if jumped clear), 20 penalties if (knocked down) is included at the discretion of the Show Organisers.
- There will be an optimum time for the course and penalties will be incurred for exceeding this time.

### **Penalties**

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Knock Down              | 10 penalties |
| First Refusal           | 15 penalties |
| Second Refusal          | 20 penalties |
| Third Refusal           | Elimination  |
| Fall of Pony / Rider    | Elimination  |
| Taking the wrong course | Elimination  |

Any penalties incurred in this Section will be deducted from the total of Sections A and B.

37. At the Championship Shows, the time allowed will be based on the table below, but will be at the Judges' discretion.

Time allowed will be based on the speed of:-

122cms - 250 metres per minute.

133cms & 143cms - 325 metres per minute.

153cms & 158cms - 350 metres per minute.

### **Penalties**

|                         |              |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Knock Down              | 10 penalties |
| First Refusal           | 15 penalties |
| Second Refusal          | 20 penalties |
| Third Refusal           | Elimination  |
| Fall of Pony / Rider    | Elimination  |
| Taking the wrong course | Elimination  |

Every commenced period of 4 seconds in excess of time allowed - 1 penalty.

Any penalties incurred in this section are deducted from the amalgamated scores from the Dressage and WSP phases.

38. In the event of elimination in this Section C 100 penalty points will be deducted from the competitors score carried forward from Sections A and B.
39. A water jump is not permitted.
40. If a combination or double fence is numbered as one fence, penalties incurred at each part are cumulative.
41. Any pony taking the wrong course or jumping another fence after completing the course will be eliminated.
42. If a pony positively stops, or turns its quarters to a fence, or has a complete turnaround these constitute refusals. If a pony jumps the incorrect fence out of a pen or lane it will be eliminated. Ponies displaying continued disobedience, or ponies leaving the ring whether mounted or dismounted will be eliminated.
43. No penalty is incurred unless the maximum height of the fence is lowered in the same vertical plane.
44. Competitors are allowed to walk the course dismounted before their class. Ponies are not allowed to practice over any part of the course before the commencement of the class.
45. No person, other than the Judge or the Course Builder appointed by the Show, is permitted to alter the course.
46. All dress will be as for Section B.

## SCORING FOR COMBINED CLASSES

### SECTIONS A & B

Competitors must complete both Sections A and B.

Marks attained in Section A Dressage and Section B WSP shall be added together to determine the winner with the highest score.

In the event of a tie, the highest Dressage score followed by the WSP Style & Manners shall be the winner.

### SECTIONS A, B, AND C

Competitors must complete Sections A, B and C.

Marks attained in Section A - Dressage and Section B - WSP, shall be added together. Any penalties incurred in Section C - Jumping will be deducted from the total from Sections A and B. The winner of the combined class of Sections A, B and C will be the competitor with the highest total of marks from all three phases.

In the event of a tie, or ties, the fastest Show Jumping time will be the decider.

At the discretion of the Show Organisers, when and if eliminated ponies in the Dressage and/ or WSP phases are to be included in the Show Jumping, the penalties are:

Elimination in the Dressage phase 100 penalties

Elimination in the WSP phase 150 penalties

The scores will be displayed as they become available.

**Championship** – The Championship will be judged on placings or otherwise stated by the organisers.

## **Helpful Directives for Organisers**

### **Dressage:**

Arena (See Diagram on Page 8) is 40m (132') by 20m (66') and should be on flat and level ground, separated from the public on the next door Arena by preferably at least 10m.

The Arena may be marked by either continuous surround of white boards, or by intermittent white boards, placed at each corner and opposite each marker, with a centre line mown from A to C. A gap of about 1m each side of the centre line must be left at A to form an entrance and the A marker placed far enough back, 10m if possible, to allow ponies to enter the Arena on a straight track.

### **Markers**

The outer markers must be clearly visible with the letters displayed in black or white. They should be placed about 2m (6') outside the arena.

### **Equipment**

Judges normally judge from their own cars, placed in line with the centre line, approximately 5m (15') from C. Equipment required:

- 1) Car hooter, whistle or bell (different for each Arena).
- 2) Board and Pencil for Judges writer.
- 3) Judges marking sheets (one per competitor, available from Head Office).
- 4) These Rules.
- 5) List of competitors and their times of starting the Test.

### **Arena Steward:**

One steward for each Arena is preferable, their duties are to see competitors perform their test on time and to check that all Saddlery and equipment conform to the rules.

This Rule Book must be available with the list of Competitors times.

### **Dressage Judges**

It is recommended that Dressage Judges be used who are on any of the recognised Dressage Judges Lists.

Each Dressage Judge requires a Writer. Judges may provide their own, but if not the organiser must appoint one.

### **Results**

#### **Scoring Computer**

- a) All the marks will be entered into the computer, which will be responsible for producing and printing the results.
- b) The computer will produce the order of jumping list for those competitors required for the Show Jumping phase (reverse order of merit).
- c) The computer will produce the Show Jumping Score Sheet.



## **Scoring and Scorers**

- 1) At least two scorers are required, plus one person to help generally and also write scores on the Boards.
- 2) All score sheets for Section A, B & C are available from Head Office.
- 3) A suitable, quiet area should be available for the scorers, i.e. a Caravan, Tent or similar.
- 4) Score Boards should be available for competitors to see at all times.
- 5) Dressage Score sheets are available for all competitors approximately 1 hour after the completion of the class.

### **Arena Steward:**

One steward for each Arena is preferable, their duties are to see competitors perform their test on time and with the correct equipment and dress, therefore a Rule Book must be available with the list of Competitors times.

### **Timing**

For a Dressage test of 4 minutes approximately the organisers should allow 7 minutes between the start of each Test.





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