

D1: Dressage

BRC runs a range of dressage competitions for both junior and senior riders, namely:

JUNIORS:

- **Junior Dressage**, for teams of 4 riders, with 3 scores to count, and for individuals (all team members are automatically in the individual competition). Two riders will ride a Prelim Test and two a Novice Test.
- **Junior Elementary Dressage, for junior individuals only.**
- **Junior Teams of Four Dressage**, for teams of four riders, all riding the same test together in the same arena. Open to any juniors that have qualified for any competition at the National Championships.
- **Junior Winter Dressage**, for teams of 4 riders, with 3 scores to count. Two riders will ride a Prelim Test and two a Novice Test.
- **Junior Pairs Dressage**, for a pair of riders to ride a test together. The tests at Area Qualifiers and at the Championships will be the same.
- **Junior Novice Dressage to Music, for junior individuals only. Prelim freestyle will be used.**
- **Junior Open Dressage to Music**, for junior individuals only, riders may choose from a **Novice or Elementary Freestyle test but** must use the same level of test in the Area Qualifiers and at the Championships.

SENIORS:

- **Senior Winter Dressage**, for teams of 4 riders, with 3 scores to count. Two riders will ride a Prelim Test and two a Novice Test.
- **Senior Rural Riders Dressage**, for teams of 6 riders plus one commander. All riders ride the same test at the same time in the same arena.
- **Senior Open Dressage**, for teams of 4 riders, with 3 scores to count, and for individuals (all team members are automatically in the individual competition). All riders will ride a different test; there are 3 different Novice Tests and 1 Elementary Test.
- **Senior Medium Dressage**, for senior individuals only.
- **Senior Teams of Four Dressage**, for teams of four riders, all riding the same test together in the same arena. Open to any seniors that have qualified for any competition at the National Championships.
- **Senior Novice Dressage**, for teams of 4 riders, with 3 scores to count. All riders will ride the same Test.
- **Senior Pairs Dressage**, for a pair of riders to ride a test together. The tests at Area Qualifiers and at the Championships will be the same.
- **Senior Novice Dressage to Music**, for senior individuals only.
- **Senior Elementary Dressage to Music**, for senior individuals only.
- **Senior Pairs Dressage to Music**, for a pair of senior individuals only.

Details of the actual tests to be used at Area Qualifiers and at the Championships are at Appendix 1.

D1.1: ELIGIBILITY

D1.1.1: Horses

See Appendix 2

Horses that have competed in a Medium, **or Open** Dressage Qualifier are not eligible for the Senior Novice competition.

The Senior Novice Dressage to Music will have two sections, one section for horses/ponies with no BD points, the second for horses/ponies with 1-124 BD points. ***No horse in the Junior Prelim section may have been placed first to third in a dressage to music championship at Novice level or above.***

D1.1.2: Riders

See Appendix 3

D1.1.3: Downgrading of horses/ponies

Downgrading will be considered on an individual basis. Application forms are available on the BRC website. Points that have been downgraded as per the previous rules will be honoured. ~~Downgrading does not apply to the prelim tests in the Winter Dressage or the Senior Novice Dressage competition.~~

D1.2: DRESS, SADDLERY & TACK

See Appendices 4, 5, 6 and 7

D1.3: RESULTS

Team Dressage

In calculating the team total, the best three scores will count. To calculate the team total individual placings in arena for team members only will be awarded points as follows 1st = 1; 2nd = 2, 3rd = 3 and so on. The points for the team will be added together, with the lowest placed rider's scores discarded and the team with the lowest scores shall be the winners. Results for each arena can, therefore, only be calculated when all team members in the relevant arena have been judged. The scores of any riders who are not in teams must be disregarded.

D1.4: TIES

Team Dressage

In the event of a tie for any team placing the fourth rider's score will count. Therefore, a team of only three members must be at a disadvantage if equality with a team of four arises. In the event of further equality the collective marks for all 4 team members shall be added together and the team with the highest total shall take the higher place.

Individuals

In the event of a tie for individual placings the collective marks shall be added together and the rider with the highest total shall take the higher place. It is imperative that ties at area qualifiers be resolved wherever possible.

Pairs Dressage

In the event of a tie for any place the pair with the highest marks for Method of Performance will be placed highest.

All Dressage to Music Competitions

In the event of a tie for any place the competitor or pair with the highest mark(s) for Artistic Presentation will be placed highest.

D1.5: AWARDS

See Appendix 10

D1.6: NUMBERS TO QUALIFY

The details in Appendix 10 are applicable providing the correct number of arenas has been used according to Rule G8.3.

D1.7: DISABLED RIDERS

Any rider with a physical disability may apply to the BRC competitions department for a Special Dispensation Certificate to allow them to compete. Before entering the competition, the rider or representative must show the certificate to the Official Steward who will then inform the Tack Steward and the Judge.

D1.8: COMMANDERS

Dressage tests at Area Qualifiers may be commanded, but not at the Championships. Commanders should be courteous when multiple arenas are running and position themselves to avoid disturbing other riders.

D1.9: JUDGING

The appropriate list judge from the BD/DI Judge's Panel will be used for all Area Qualifiers and Championships:

Preliminary & Novice	List 1 to 5
Elementary & Pairs	List 1 to 5
Medium	List 1 to 3
DTM & Pairs DTM	List 1 to 5 (two judges at the championships)

D1.9.1: Entering the Arena

No horse/pony either ridden or led may enter the arena, except when actually competing, contravention will incur elimination.

Entering before the signal to start or failure to start within 45 seconds following the signal to start will result in a two mark penalty per judge being awarded. Prolonged failure to enter for significantly more than 45 seconds may lead to elimination.

D1.9.2: Execution of Tests

Salute

All riders must take the reins into one hand when saluting. A whip, if carried, should be held in the rein hand whilst saluting.

Movements to be performed

All movements forming the test must be ridden in the order laid down on the test sheet.

Execution of the movements

A movement specified to be carried out at a specific point in the arena must be executed when the rider's body is at that point.

Reins in both hands

Tests must be ridden with reins in both hands, unless the test sheet specifies otherwise or in the case of a disabled rider (see D1.7)

Transitions

Transitions may be progressive up to and including Elementary Tests unless otherwise indicated on the test sheet. At Medium level direct transitions are required.

Reins in one hand during the test

The reins and whip, if carried, should be held in the outside hand with the inside arm held down by the rider's side.

Sitting and Rising Trot

For all tests up to Elementary Tests the trot movements may be executed sitting or rising. For all tests at Medium and above all trot work must be executed sitting.

D1.9.3: Leaving the arena

Riders must leave the arena after the final salute at walk on a long rein at the appropriate exit. This is assumed to be at A unless riders and officials have been advised otherwise.

A horse/pony leaving the arena at any time during the test, out of control, will be eliminated. For this purpose the test begins at A and finishes at A (unless an alternative has been advised – see preceding paragraph) after completing the test.

A horse/pony is eliminated if, during the test, it leaves the arena when the surround is 23cm high or more. When the surround is less than 23cm and is marked by boards or similar, no marks will be given for the movement when the horse/pony places all four feet outside the arena. When the arena is marked by a line only or by intermittent boards, it is at the discretion of the judge as to the marks to be deducted.

D1.10: SCORING

D1.10.1 Marks

The judge will allocate from 0 to 10 marks for each numbered movement. These marks are then added together and any penalties deducted to arrive at the total score

If more than one judge officiates then the total score awarded by each judge is calculated, the scores are then added together to give the competitor's final score.

The scale of marks being:

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	

Marks 0 and 10 must be awarded when performances warrant their use. Not Executed means that no aspect of the movement was performed.

Penalties for errors of course are:

First error.....	2 penalties
Second error.....	4 penalties
Third error.....	Elimination

D1.10.2: Errors of course

A rider is judged to have made an error of course when they depart from the direction or pace laid down in the test sheet.

Usually the judge, having seen an error, will signal to the competitor and, if necessary, will indicate the point at which the test must be resumed and the next movement executed. In some cases although an error has occurred the judge may feel that to stop the rider would impede the fluency of the performance. In such cases the error must be noted in the remarks column and the movement marked accordingly.

If a rider makes an error in the test (i.e. salutes incorrectly) the judge will not stop the rider, but will note the error on the score sheet, the rider will be penalised for making an error of course, and penalties applied accordingly.

If the combination does not enter at A in a freestyle test, two marks should be deducted.

D1.10.3: Resistance

Any horse/pony refusing to continue the test for a period of 20 seconds during the test shall be eliminated. Grinding teeth or a swishing tail are signs of nervousness, tenseness or resistance on the part of the horse/pony and must be taken into account by the judges in their marks for the movements concerned as well as the appropriate collective mark.

D1.10.4: Use of voice

The use of the voice is prohibited and will be penalised by the loss of two marks (0.2 marks in Pairs Dressage) from those that would have been awarded for the movement in which this occurred.

D1.10.5: Outside Assistance

Any outside assistance by voice, signs etc is considered as assistance to a rider or to the horse/pony and as such will be penalised by elimination.

D1.10.6: Dismounting and falls

If a rider dismounts after entering the arena, without an acceptable reason to the judge, no marks will be given for the movement when the rider dismounts. If a horse/pony and/or rider falls during the test the competitor will be eliminated.

D1.10.7: Incorrect equipment or test

Any competitor entering the arena with incorrect saddlery, or equipment, riding the wrong test or in any other way not complying with the rules will be eliminated from the class. At Area Qualifiers, however, if the judge, organiser and Official Steward agree the competitor may be allowed to enter the arena again, properly equipped, and perform the test Hors Concours. ***A two point deduction from the final score may be awarded for every minor infringement such as incorrect dress.***

D1.10.8: Time allowed

If in Pairs Dressage competitors take more than the time allowed for the test it may have an adverse effect on the marks awarded for Artistic Merit.

In Elementary and Pairs Dressage to Music the time allowed is 4½ to 5 minutes. In Novice Dressage to Music the time allowed is 4 to 5 minutes. All DTM tests are timed from the first halt to the final halt.

All dressage to music tests will take place in a 20m x 60m arena at the Championships. At area qualifiers either 20m x 40m or 20m x 60m arenas may be used.

All other dressage tests have no time limits or time penalties.

D1.11: JUDGES

On the day of the competition, the appointed judge(s) should refrain from any training activity relating to the competitors whom they are judging. No rider who has qualified may judge the same class in any area during the same competition year. See also Rule G26.

D1.12: ARENAS

All dressage tests shall be ridden in a standard 20m by 40m arena unless the test states otherwise. All arenas shall be set up on as level ground as possible and shall be adequately separated from each other and from other sources of distraction. Adjacent arenas should be a minimum of 5m apart and preferably 10m. It is the ultimate responsibility of the judge to check that the arena is satisfactory and to have it modified if necessary. Organisers must comply with all reasonable requests from judges in relation to arenas.

D1.13: DRESSAGE TO MUSIC COMPETITIONS

The music must be recorded on a standard CD. The CDs must be labelled as follows:

On the CD

Rider's name and number, Horse/pony's name, Club.

On the container

- Rider's name and number
- Indication of when to start the music (i.e. start music as I salute or start music as I reach D)
- If music is to be played during the exit indicate this on the container

The CD must only contain the entire compilation of music that is to be played for that specific test. It is strongly recommended that each rider has at least one spare copy to hand in.

It is very important that a definite signal to start is given.

All competitors in DTM competitions must be current music members of BD. CD's must be handed to the commentator at least 30 minutes before the scheduled time of their test. Competitors may provide their own technical adviser to be present in the commentator's box to supervise the playing of the CD. It is recommended that they have a duplicate CD readily available. Copies of the Pairs DTM Test is in Appendix 16.

No more than 20 seconds of introductory music may be played before the entry at A. All licensing literature will be dealt with via the BD Office. Please contact the BD Music Membership Co-ordinator on 02476 698846 with any queries.

D1.14: INTERPRETATION OF DRESSAGE SHEETS

Notes on the interpretation of dressage sheets, and definitions of paces and movements are given in the current BD Rule Book. The Official BRC Competition Rules have precedence over any information given on a dressage sheet for the test in question where there is conflict. Competitors may be given their judging sheets on the completion of their class but not until the judges have sanctioned their distribution or until 30 minutes after the close of the class. Competitors taking part in two or more dressage classes on the same day judged by the same judge shall not have access to their judging sheets until after their final class.

Judges' marking sheets with remarks, duly signed by the judge, must be treated as confidential until given to the competitor when they then become their property. The competition organisers are not obliged to make public any scores other than total marks awarded and the classification of the results, though they may if they wish.

The test executed at the Championships, along with the music used should fundamentally be the same as that which was ridden at the qualifier.

D2: Rural Riders dressage

D2.1: ELIGIBILITY

D2.1.1: Horses

There are no restrictions on the eligibility of horses for this competition.

D2.1.2: Riders

Riders who have competed in a CDI or CDIO held **abroad** under FEI Rules since 1 January 5 years prior to the Championships are ineligible for this competition.

D2.2: NUMBERS TO QUALIFY

Each Area may enter one team of six horses and six senior riders to compete at the National Championships. If more than one team wishes to enter this competition then the Area Liaison Committee may hold an Area Qualifying competition. If a qualifying competition is held the Area Liaison Committee must inform the BRC Office, these details may be used to form a waiting list. For the Championships teams may use three reserves.

D2.3: SADDLERY & TACK See Appendices 5, 6 and 7

All horses should be in similar tack. Bridles should all be snaffle bridles. Manes should be plaited and tails pulled or plaited in the same manner, except for Native Breeds and Arabs. A neat, polished appearance is essential.

D2.4 DRESS

All riders and commander should be dressed the same, with black or navy jackets. All breeches should be the same light colour, white or cream stocks, gloves should also be the same colour, black long boots and spurs, if required. See Appendix 4.

D2.5: COMMANDERS

All tests must be commanded. Movements should be carried out when the leading rider's body is at a specific point. All commanders must be in riding dress.

D2.6: JUDGING

Two judges are required for Area Qualifiers and Championships and at least one should be on the current List 1 to 3 of the BD/DI Judges Panel (see Guidelines for Organisers Handbook).

D2.7: RESULTS

The team with the highest marks will be placed first. If a team starts with four or five riders instead of six then the scorer (not the judges) will reduce the total score by 1/3 or 1/6 as appropriate.

D2.8: TIES

In the event of a tie, the team with the highest mark for Discipline shall be placed highest.

D2.9: AWARDS See Appendix 10

D2.10: GENERAL POINTS

As the test should be executed in sitting trot, it is essential that trainers should endeavour to train the team to be able to sit comfortably and correctly. Quiet and smooth aid application is essential and tactful control if a horse is disobedient. The whole team should work as one and should be aware of other riders and horses. Spacing is essential and distances must be maintained.

A close working team looks more professional and polished. Safety is also a factor to be taken into consideration. The choice of leading file and rear file is paramount, as the judges eyes tend to be drawn in that direction. Also the leading file dictates the tempo of the paces and must be aware of the needs of the other team members.

D3: Teams of Four

This is a junior and senior team competition with all four riders performing the team test in a 20m x 60m arena at the same time.

D3.1: ELIGIBILITY

D3.1.1: Horses

Only ponies/horses that have qualified in any class at the National Championships are eligible for this competition.

D3.1.2: Riders

Only riders that have qualified in any class at the National Championships are eligible for this competition.

D3.2: NUMBERS TO QUALIFY

There will be no area qualifier for this competition - it is direct entry. Any teams or individuals that qualify for the National Championships will be eligible to enter this additional competition. Entry forms are available on the BRC website. Teams are to be made up of either four juniors or four seniors. Two reserves will be permitted.

D3.3: SADDLERY & TACK See Appendices 5, 6 and 7

All horses should be in similar tack. Bridles should all be snaffle bridles. Manes should be plaited and tails pulled or plaited in the same manner, except for Native Breeds and Arabs. A neat, polished appearance is essential.

D3.4 DRESS See Appendix 4.

D3.5: COMMANDERS

All tests must be commanded. Movements should be carried out when the leading rider's body is at a specific point. All commanders must be in riding dress, see Appendix 4.

D3.6: JUDGING

Two judges are required for the Championships and at least one should be on the current List 1 to 3 of the BD/DI Judges Panel.

D3.7: RESULTS

The team with the highest marks will be placed first. If a team starts with three riders instead of four then the scorer (not the judges) will reduce the total score by $\frac{1}{4}$.

D3.8: TIES

In the event of a tie for any place, the team with the highest mark for Discipline shall be placed highest.

D3.9: AWARDS See Appendix 10

D3.10: GENERAL POINTS

The test may be ridden in sitting or rising trot. Quiet and smooth aid application is essential and tactful control if a horse is disobedient. The whole team should work as one and should be aware of other riders and horses. Spacing is essential and distances must be maintained.

A close working team looks more professional and polished. Safety is also a factor to be taken into consideration. The choice of leading file and rear file is paramount, as the judges' eyes tend to be drawn in those directions. Also the leading file dictates the tempo of the paces and must be aware of the needs of the other team members.

Copies of the BRC Team Dressage Tests are at Appendix 14.

D4: Riding Test

The Riding Test competitions are open to both Junior and Senior riders, teams to consist of four members. Junior Riding Team members will all ride the same Novice Test. Two Senior Riding Team members will each ride the same Novice Test and the other two Team members will ride the Advanced Test. Details of the Tests to be ridden are at Appendix 1. All Riding Tests will be undertaken in a 40m x 20m arena. Copies of the BRC Riding Tests are at Appendix 17.

D4.1: ELIGIBILITY

D4.1.1: Horses

See Appendix 2. For downgrading see Rule D.1.1.3

D4.1.2: Riders

See Appendix 3.

D4.1.3: Qualifications gained after close of entry

Qualifications gained after the close of preliminary entries will be disregarded.

D4.4: DRESS, SADDLERY & TACK

See Appendices 4, 5, 6 and 7

D4.5: COMMANDERS

Riding Tests at Area qualifiers may be commanded; Riding Tests at Championships may not be commanded.

D4.6: JUDGING

Judges at Area Qualifiers and Championships should be from the current List 1 Panel of BRC Riding Test Judges (see Guidelines for Organisers Handbook). This test is to be judged as a test of competence of the rider and their influence on the pony or horse. The rider should sit in a correct position and should be able to understand and apply the aids correctly for each pace and movement. It shall not be judged as a Dressage Test, but the same scale of marks are used.

All rules appertaining to entering and leaving the arena, execution of tests, dismounting, falls of horse/pony or rider resistances, outside assistance errors of course etc are the same as for Dressage Tests, see Rules D1.10 and D1.11.

D4.7: SCORING

The judge will allocate from 0 to 10 marks for each numbered movement. These marks are then added together and any penalties deducted to arrive at the total score

The scale of marks being:

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	

Penalties for errors of course are:

First error.....	2 penalties
Second error.....	4 penalties
Third error.....	Elimination

D4.8: NUMBERS TO QUALIFY

See Appendix 10. The number of highest placed individual riders qualifying for the Championships will be governed by the number of arenas required (see Rule G8.2).

D4.9: RESULTS

In calculating the team total, the best three scores will count. To calculate the team total individual placings in arena for team members only will be awarded points as follows 1st = 1; 2nd = 2, 3rd = 3 and so on. The points for the team will be added together, with the lowest placed rider's scores discarded and the team with the lowest scores shall be the winners. Results for each arena can, therefore, only be calculated when all team members in the relevant arena have been judged.

D4.10: TIES

Teams

In the event of a tie for any team placing the fourth rider's score will count. Therefore, a team of only three members must be at a disadvantage if equality with a team of four arises. In the event of further equality the collective marks for all team members shall be added together and the team with the highest total shall take the higher place. The scores of any riders who are not in teams must be disregarded.

Individuals

In the event of a tie for individual placings the collective marks shall be added together and the rider with the highest total shall take the higher place.

It is imperative that ties at Area qualifiers be resolved wherever possible.

D4.11 AWARDS

See Appendix 10