

TRAILBLAZERS DRESSAGE RULES.

(Revised February 2012).

1. Classes

To be run at the following levels: Preliminary, Novice and Elementary for both junior and senior

2. Juniors

riding ponies/horses. Rider up to 16 years of age and not to have attained their 17th birthday by the first day of the National Championships.

3. Seniors

riding horses/ponies must have attained their 17th birthday on the first day of the National Championship Show.

4. Eligibility

For horses that are currently registered with BD or horses that have been registered with BD within the preceding 12 months the following rules apply. The maximum number of British Dressage (BD) points permitted at Trailblazers 2nd Rounds and Finals are 20 points at Preliminary level, 100 points at Novice level and 150 points at Elementary level. Should a horse have been downgraded by BD, the points awarded will be accepted by Trailblazers.

BD points allowed in the 1st rounds are at the discretion of the centres.

5. Riding of the Test

Commanders are permitted but not at the National Championships. No other form of outside assistance (including radio communications) will be allowed. Competitors may only enter the competition area when it is their turn to compete.

6. Errors

First	Penalised 2 marks
Second	Penalised 4 (more) marks
Third	Penalised 8 (more) marks
Fourth	Elimination competitor to leave the arena.

A fall of a horse or rider during a test will result in compulsory retirement from that class. Riders may compete on a different horse in the same class and then in subsequent tests if the rider declares he/she is fit to carry on.

7. Dress Code

Hats - Juniors to be worn to current standards. Chin straps compulsory.

Hats - Seniors to be worn to current standards - but strongly recommend chin straps to be worn.

Boots - Black/brown long or jodhpur, gaiters or plain chaps permitted (black/brown, no fringes) providing they match the colour of the jodhpur boots.

Jodhpurs/breeches - Light colour (white, cream or beige)

Jackets - Hacking/Black/Navy

Shirts - Plain colour, with collar. Tie or stock where appropriate.

Gloves - Must be worn, (2 mark penalty if not worn)

Spurs - optional-to be metal, worn correctly (curved down) and not too severe.

Whip - optional (excessive use prohibited).

Body protector - optional- over or under jacket.

8. Tack

Saddle - English or Continental style.

Bits - as recognised by British Dressage

Bridle - Recognised snaffle only. Double bridle allowed at Elementary.

Noseband - obligatory - cavesson, drop or flash permitted with snaffle bridle. A cavesson only with a double bridle.

Neck strap - may be used in preliminary classes and while riding in.

Breastplates and breast girths - permitted.

Prohibited tack - Cruppers, martingales, bearing / side / running reins, blinkers.

Sheepskin seat covers, boots and bandages. No other gadgets or aids are permitted.

Ear covers/fly fringes - are permitted during riding in and also for competitions held outdoors in summer months, solely in order to protect the horse from insects.

They may not be worn for competitions held indoors. Nose nets will no longer require a dispensation certificate.

9. Showground and working in arena rules

a) Dress and tack codes must be adhered to at all times that a horse is ridden.

b) Lungeing with any balancing or running rein is prohibited.

c) No lungeing without permission.

d) A horse may only be worked in by the person who is due to compete it.

e) Whips may be carried.

f) No walking or standing on the outside track.

g) Only riders and trainers to be allowed in the practice area.

10. Qualification for Second Rounds

Will be on class percentage, with all tests at 58% and over gaining qualification at that level.

11. Second Round Dressage Competitions.

AT EACH LEVEL BOTH JUNIORS & SENIORS

A Class of 25 competitors would produce 6 Qualified Combinations.

A Class of above 25 competitors would produce 7 Qualified Combinations.

A Class of above 30 competitors would produce 8 Qualified Combinations.

A Class of above 35 competitors would produce 9 Qualified Combinations.

The ratio of qualified competitors would continue as above even if the class needs to be split because of large entries regardless of their percentage score.

At some centres that have very large entries they may have to split their class into sections as it is unfair on both the judge and the competitors if the class is too large. You can check with the centre where you enter your Second round if they have split their classes into sections.

Seniors please be aware that some of the starters in your section may be juniors, and therefore will not be counted as a starter in the senior section.

Every centre runs one class at each level they have run 1st rounds for during the series. Not all centres need to split their classes into sections but if they do please be aware that it is **not necessary 6 competitors that qualify from each section.**

12. Qualification at the Second Rounds for Spillers® National Dressage Championships.

The top 6 competitors qualify from each level for both junior and senior for the 2012 finals in second round qualifier classes up to 25 competitors irrespective of percentage. In classes above 25 competitors please see above for qualifying ratios.