

# TRAILBLAZERS CHAMPIONSHIPS

## GENERAL RULES COVERING ALL DISCIPLINES

*(Revised 1 March 2020)*

D003

### 1. Definitions

**1.1** In these Trailblazers Rules the term “**Competitor**” refers to any rider participating at a Trailblazers Qualifier or the Trailblazers Championship Finals, along with any associate of the rider, supporter or entourage. The term “**Show Organiser**” refers to the person / persons or company organising any Trailblazers Qualifier or the Trailblazers Championship Finals.

### 2. Qualification of a Partnership

#### Dressage

**2.1** Only qualified partnerships (horse / pony and rider) from a Trailblazers First Round Qualifier are eligible to compete at the Trailblazers Second Round Qualifiers.

**2.2** Only qualified partnerships (horse / pony and rider) from a Trailblazers Second Round Qualifier are eligible to compete at the Trailblazers Championship Finals.

#### Show Jumping / Combined Training / Showing

**2.3** Only qualified partnerships (horse / pony and rider) from a Trailblazers Direct Qualifier are eligible to compete at the Trailblazers Championship Finals.

#### All Disciplines

**2.4** In the event of a partnership (horse / pony and rider) ceasing, then the qualification (whether for Trailblazers Second Round Qualifiers or for the Trailblazers Championship Finals) will cease. If a partnership ceases the competitor would not be eligible for a refund for the cost of their Trailblazers Second Round Qualification Card/s and / or Trailblazers Direct Qualification Card/s. The refund policy regarding the Trailblazers Championship Finals is available in the Trailblazers Championship Finals Schedule.

**2.5** The horse / pony name used on the qualification card and the name as stated on the animal's passport must be the name used when entering the Trailblazers Championship Finals.

**2.6** It is the responsibility of any Competitor who has a change of contact details to contact the Trailblazers Central Office to update their details.

### 3. Qualification – Dressage

#### First Round Qualification

**3.1** The qualifying period for dressage first rounds for each Championship Final is from 1 September the previous year until each individual Venue has hosted their dressage second round qualifier competition in the year of the Championship Final.

**3.2** Once a Competitor has qualified at a First Round Qualifier, they will be issued or should request a congratulatory letter from the Venue confirming that they have qualified. Should a Competitor decide to accept the qualification for the second rounds, then they should return the congratulatory letter together with the appropriate fee to the Venue of Qualification.

**3.3** The Dressage Qualification Card can be used to compete in any Trailblazers Second Rounds at the level qualified. There is no restriction on the number of Second Rounds at the level qualified that a competitor may compete at to try to qualify for the Trailblazers Championship Finals.

## **Second Round Qualification**

**3.4** Second Round Qualifiers will be held in March, April or May in the year of the Championship Final.

**3.5** Every Show Organiser has the option to run one Second Round Qualifier at their Venue at each level for which have run First Round Qualifiers.

**3.6** The number to qualify for the Trailblazers Championship Finals from Second Round Qualifiers are listed in the Trailblazers Dressage Rules.

## **4. Qualification – Show Jumping/Combined Training/Showing**

### **Direct Qualification**

**4.1** The qualifying period for Direct Qualifiers for each Championship Final is from 1 September the previous year till 1 June in the year of the Championship Final.

**4.2** Once a Competitor has qualified at a Direct Qualifier, they will be issued or should request a congratulatory letter from the Venue confirming that they have qualified. Should a Competitor decide to accept the qualification, then they should return the congratulatory letter together with the appropriate fee to the Venue of Qualification.

**4.3** Once a Competitor has received a Direct Qualification Card, they should complete and send the card to the Trailblazers Central Office.

**4.4** The number to qualify for the Trailblazers Championship Finals from Direct Qualifiers are listed in the individual rules for each discipline.

**4.5** Show Jumping and Combined Training Competitors must qualify and purchase a Qualification Card for each level in which they wish to compete at the Championship Finals.

**4.6** Showing Competitors that qualify and purchase a Qualification Card may use the card to enter multiple showing or working hunter classes at the Championship Finals as long as they are eligible for such classes.

## **5. Objections**

**5.1** Any objections must be made in writing to the show secretary at the event within 30 minutes of the competitors leaving the arena following the conclusion of the prize giving of the competition for which the objection is associated. The objection must be accompanied by a cash deposit of £60.00 or such sum as the schedule indicates.

**5.2** The decision of the Judge cannot be overruled. However, the Judge may, in light of evidence presented to them, and in accordance with these Trailblazers General Rules and the appropriate Trailblazers discipline specific rules, reconsider their decision, but the final decision rests with the Judge alone.

**5.3** Should the objection be other than a judging issue then the objection will be heard by the Show Organiser for the event in question whose decision upon reviewing the evidence presented, and in accordance with these Trailblazers General Rules and the appropriate Trailblazers discipline specific rules, will be final. Trailblazers Central Office may not overrule the decision of the Show Organiser.

**5.4** If the objection is overruled, the objector's deposit is forfeited to the event. If the objection is upheld the deposit will be returned to the objector.

## **6. Stallions**

**6.1** No person shall allow a stallion for which he / she is responsible as owner, lessee, authorised agent or rider to compete or be prepared to compete, in any class without taking adequate precautions to ensure other persons are not put at risk of injury. Stallions must be clearly identified whilst on the show ground.

**6.2** It is highly recommended that stallions should wear a stallion disc and that it is the responsibility of the Competitor to ensure that their stallion is clearly identified as such by other Competitors.

## **7. Presentations / Prize Giving**

**7.1** The Show Organiser may reserve the right to withhold prizes if Competitors do not attend the Official Prize Giving. Competitors must attend the Official Prize Giving dressed in the manner in which they competed or required by the Show Organiser.

## **8. Equine Influenza Records**

**8.1** It is the responsibility of the Competitor to ascertain (by direct contact with the individual venue) whether an Equine Influenza Record is required for a venue at which they may wish to compete.

**8.2** All horses / ponies competing at the Trailblazers Championship Finals at Stoneleigh Park must have a current and valid record of vaccination against Equine Influenza. Horses / Ponies must have been fully vaccinated within the past twelve months before arriving at the event and must have received the full course of vaccinations or the booster at least 7 days before arriving at the Championships. There will be random checking of records and any horse or pony found without a valid record will not be permitted to remain at the Trailblazers Championship Finals.

## **9. Social Media**

**9.1** Trailblazers recognise that the internet provides unique opportunities to participate in interactive discussions and share information on particular topics using a wide variety of social media. However, all Trailblazers Members and / or Competitors must comply with the requirements of this rule whenever they use any form of social networking websites that now exist or may exist in the future.

**9.2** In their use of the internet and all social media, Members of Trailblazers and / or Competitors must not post any threatening, derogatory, obscene, indecent, seditious, offensive, pornographic, abusive, disparaging, racist, discriminatory, menacing, inflammatory, blasphemous, or defamatory statements or material, including, but not limited to, statements or material concerning Trailblazers, Members or former Members of Trailblazers, Show Direct, associates of Trailblazers and / or sponsors of Trailblazers. Members and / or Competitors will not make any statements that could directly or indirectly damage the name or reputation of Trailblazers.

**9.3** Trailblazers reserves the right to monitor, intercept and review, without further notice, social media postings and activities that include references to it and / or its members, to ensure that its rules are being complied with and for legitimate business purposes. All Trailblazers Members and / or Competitor consent to such monitoring by their agreeing to abide by these rules.

**9.4** Trailblazers may require Members and / or Competitor to remove postings, comments or any other submissions made using social media that are deemed to constitute a breach of this rule. Failure to comply with such a request may in itself result in suspension of membership.

**9.5** Trailblazers will fully comply with any law, request by any governmental or other regulatory authority; order by a court or other authority of competent jurisdiction, that requires Trailblazers to disclose the identity or location of any Member and / or Competitors posting any material in breach of the requirements of this rule. Trailblazers may share a member's personal information with the police or any other governmental authority if it is asked to do so in connection with the investigation of suspected illegal activities.

**9.6** Failure by a Trailblazers Member and / or Competitor to comply with the provisions of this rule may result in Trailblazers suspending that Member's membership and therefore right to compete in Second Round Qualifiers and Trailblazers Championship Finals. Civil and / or criminal proceedings could also be brought against any Member and / or Competitor for breach of this rule where applicable.

## **10. Conduct**

**10.1** Unacceptable conduct, cruelty and / or anti-social behaviour will be dealt with at the discretion of the Show Organiser.

## **11. Management of Qualifier Shows**

**11.1** It is understood and agreed by Competitors that the event management, organisation and insurance of individual shows at which Trailblazers qualifiers are hosted, whether they be direct, first or second round qualifiers are the sole responsibility of the Show Organiser for that individual show.

## **12. Terms & Conditions for Trailblazers Venues**

**12.1** By entering any Trailblazers competition in any discipline, the Competitor understands and agrees to comply to the Trailblazers Rules (as set out on the website [www.trailblazerschampionships.com](http://www.trailblazerschampionships.com)) and to the Terms & Conditions of the individual venue at which they are competing. The decision of the Show Organiser of the venue at which the Competitor is competing is deemed final.

## **13. Rule Amendments**

**14.1** Show Direct Ltd reserves the right to make alterations without notice to any Trailblazers Rules in any discipline. Should any such changes be made they will immediately be published on [www.trailblazerschampionships.com](http://www.trailblazerschampionships.com)