



THE BARRIER SPRING FESTIVAL: ENGLAND & WALES 2024

DRESSAGE RULES

For Grassroots, Novice, Intermediate and Open Levels

(For Scotland & Northern Ireland see Regional Rules)

**Championships to be held at Arena UK
24th – 25th February 2024**

Issued by The Pony Club
Lowlands Equestrian Centre, Old Warwick Road, Warwick, CV35 7AX
Tel: 02476 698300 Email: dressage@pcuk.org
www.pcuk.org

Except where varied in these rules, this competition will be judged in accordance with the current Pony Club Dressage Rule Book.

Every eventuality cannot be provided for in these rules. In any unforeseen circumstances, it is the duty of the relevant officials to make a decision in a sporting spirit and to approach as nearly as possible the intention of these rules.

SADDLERY & DRESS

The current Pony Club Saddlery and Dress Rules apply.

COMMANDERS

Commanders are not permitted at Area Competitions or Championships. *Reasonable Adjustment may be considered if required, please see <https://pcuk.org/officials/equality-diversity/reasonable-adjustment/>.*

QUALIFYING STAGES

There are two stages of the Barrier Spring Festival Dressage competition in England and Wales:

1. Area Competitions for Dressage will be held any time before 4th February 2024.
Members do not need to qualify for their Area Qualifier
2. Those who are successful at their Area Competition will go forward to the Barrier Spring Festival Championships on 25th February 2024 at Arena UK

Branches are to be encouraged to hold friendly or league competitions to give members some practice before the Area competition.

TEAM COMPETITION

Branches/Centres may enter a team of three or four in the Dressage Area qualifying competitions. The four can compete at different levels or all at the same level or a mixture of the two. The team must comprise of at least three members (i.e. one member may ride two horses) and the top three scores to count. The winning Branch/Centre team at each Area competition will qualify for the Spring Festival. If any of the individual qualifiers are in a qualifying team their place will be passed down the line.

TEAM COMPETITION SCORING

Points shall be awarded to each team competitor depending on their placing (1st = 1 point, 2nd = 2 points, etc.) relative only to other team competitors in that class and not on their overall placing in that class. Any competitors riding as an individual in the same class as team competitors should not be given points. The points for the three best-placed team members shall be added together to give the team score. The winning team will be the team with the least points.

Eligibility Rules

GRASSROOTS ELIGIBILITY

A combination of horse and rider is NOT eligible if they have:

- Competed at a Novice Area level or above competition in Dressage in the current year or done so in previous years.
- Competed above Prelim level with British Dressage
- Competed at BD Novice My/Team Quest

NOVICE ELIGIBILITY

A combination of horse and rider is NOT eligible if they have:

- Competed at an Open Area level or above competition in Dressage in the current year or done so in previous years.
- Won any BD points (BD Preliminary points do not count for the purposes of this rule)
- Competed at BD Elementary level or above (BD Team/My Quest competitions do not count for the purpose of this rule)
- Competed in BD Novice Music classes.

INTERMEDIATE ELIGIBILITY

Riders are NOT eligible if they have:

- Represented GB internationally.

A combination of horse and rider is NOT eligible if they have:

- Competed at an Open Area level or above competition in Dressage in the current year or done so in previous years.
- Won any BD points at Elementary level or above.
- Competed at BD Medium level or above (BD Team/My Quest competitions do not count for the purpose of this rule)

OPEN ELIGIBILITY

Open to all Members of The Pony Club

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Multiple Horses – competitors may ride a maximum of three horses at the Area Competition and two horses at the Championships in any one class. In the event of a rider qualifying more than two horses for the Championships, they must nominate which two they will take at the Area Competition. The other qualifying place will be passed down the line.

Multiple Riders – horses may only be ridden by one rider at Area Competitions and the Championships.

Multiple Levels – subject to eligibility, riders may qualify for both the Novice and Intermediate Championships OR the Intermediate and Open Championships but cannot ride the same horse at both levels.

If a combination qualifies for more than one level for the Championships (*either as part of a team or as an individual*), they must take the higher level forward, i.e., if they qualify for both the Novice and Intermediate Championships, they must take the Intermediate place and pass the Novice place down the line. **This rule also stands if a combination qualifies as part of a team at one level and as an individual at another level, they must only compete at the Championships in the higher level.**

Area Competition Rules

Held in 16 Areas throughout the country any time before 4th February 2024. Area Competition dates can be found on The Pony Club website.

All members must attend their own Area Qualifier, no exemptions will be given.

JUDGES

The Show Organiser shall appoint Judges (one per arena) from the British Dressage Judges Panel lists 1 – 6 for the Area Competitions.

DRESSAGE TESTS

Grassroots – The Pony Club Grassroots PC80 Dressage Test 2018

Novice – The Pony Club Novice Dressage Test 2020

Intermediate – The Pony Club Intermediate Dressage Test 2022

Open – The Pony Club Open Dressage Test 2020

SECTIONS

If there are 30 competitors or less the section will be held in one arena. If there are more than 30 competitors, the section may be split into two arenas.

NUMBERS TO QUALIFY

Grassroots & Novice:

The first FOUR in each section, any tying for these places, will qualify for the Championships. If any of the individual qualifiers are in a qualifying team their place will be passed down the line.

Intermediate:

Number of competitors in the section	Number of competitors to qualify (plus any tying for these places)
0 – 14	4
15 – 25	5
25 +	6

If any of the individual qualifiers are in a qualifying team their place will be passed down the line.

Open:

Number of competitors in the section	Number of competitors to qualify (plus any tying for these places)
0 – 5	4
6 – 9	5
10 +	6

If any of the individual qualifiers are in a qualifying team their place will be passed down the line.

PASSING DOWN THE QUALIFICATION

On the day - If a competitor is unable to go to the Championships, then the qualifying places will be passed down the line. Please ensure every competitor confirms to the organiser/steward that they are intending to enter the Championships. If any of the individual qualifiers are in a qualifying team their place will be passed down the line.

After the Area Qualifier – If a competitor is unable to go to the Championships, they must notify The Pony Club Office as soon as possible so that their qualifying place can be passed down the line. This will only be done up until five days prior to the Championships.

AREA QUALIFIER COMPETITION RESULTS

All qualifier organisers must submit the results of their competition, including the teams and combinations in a qualifying position as soon as the competition has finished. If the competition is cancelled or there are no qualifiers, please ensure the office is notified. It must be clear on the results which teams and riders are in a qualifying position.

Please use www.ponyclubresults.co.uk to deliver live results, this is a free service that enables scorers to enter the scores as they happen. More information can be found at <https://www.ponyclubresults.co.uk/site/about.php>. Please contact Miranda Collett at miranda@eventingscores.co.uk for support.

It is very important that the teams and individuals that have qualified for the Championships are clearly marked on the results with a Q for individuals and a T for team members.

A link to your results can be submitted online at <https://events.pcuk.org/?p=11103>

ENTRY FEE

Entry fee to be set by the organising Branch/Centre or Venue.

Please contact the relevant Show Secretary for details, these can also be found on The Pony Club website.

The Barrier Spring Festival – Championship Rules

If numbers permit, there will be more than one section/arena at each level at the Championships. In this case, there will be a ride-off. The first two competitors in each section/arena will qualify for the ride-off.

JUDGES

Judges for the Championships shall be appointed by The Pony Club Office who should be on the British Dressage Judges Panel on Lists 1 – 4.

DRESSAGE TESTS

Grassroots – The Pony Club Grassroots Dressage Test 2018

Novice – The Pony Club Novice Dressage Championship Test 2017

Intermediate – **The Pony Club Intermediate Dressage Championship Test 2023**

Open – The Pony Club Open Dressage Championship Test 2018

SUBSTITUTIONS

Teams – the DC/Centre Proprietor may substitute rider(s) and/or horse(s) in the Team before entering. If a horse has to be substituted an alternative rider may be nominated. If a rider has to be substituted an alternative horse may be nominated. If a Branch/Centre has qualified more than one team, a substitution may be made from one team to another.

If a team of three qualifies for the Championships, then a fourth team member may be entered at the Championships, as long as both the horse and rider are eligible and have completed the Area Competition.

Individuals – A substitute horse may be entered but not a substitute rider.

No substitutes shall be allowed after the Competition has started.

ENTRY FEE

Entry Fee: £30.00 per competitor

Entries for competitors, who have qualified for the Championships, should be made **through the online entry system as soon as possible after their Area Competition or on the day of their Area Competition if it is held on the weekend before the Championships.**

Dressage Tests

AREA COMPETITIONS

Grassroots

The Pony Club Grassroots PC80 Dressage Test 2018

Novice

The Pony Club Novice Dressage Test 2020

Intermediate

The Pony Club Intermediate Dressage Test 2022

Open

The Pony Club Open Dressage Test 2020

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Grassroots

The Pony Club Grassroots PC80 Dressage Test 2018

Novice

The Pony Club Novice Dressage Championship Test 2017

Intermediate

The Pony Club Intermediate Dressage Championship Test 2023

Open

The Pony Club Open Dressage Championship Test 2018

Test sheets are available to download from: [The Pony Club Website](#)

Score sheets are available to purchase from: [The Pony Club Shop](#)