

## **PONY CLUB DRESSAGE ELIGIBILITY 2023 (page 31)**

The District Commissioner or Centre Proprietor is required to certify the eligibility of horse and rider as follows. Should a breach of eligibility subsequently be discovered, then the Dressage Committee may disqualify the offending competitor.

**Area** – Members must fulfill all the following eligibility rules on the day of their Area Competition.

**Championships** – Between the Area Competition and the Championships, combinations who qualify for the Championships are permitted to compete in BD (or DI) competitions at a higher level than they are allowed to for the level at which they are qualified but not more than one level higher.

Please see below.

### **APPLICABLE TO OPEN, INTERMEDIATE, NOVICE AND REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

1. Horses must be 4 years of age or over and there is no height limit. A horse or pony shall be deemed to reach the age of 1 on the 1st January following the date on which it is foaled and shall be deemed to become a year older on each successive 1st January.
2. Combination of Horse and Rider cannot compete at two different levels of the same Sport at the Area Competition or at the Championships.
3. Stallions may only be ridden by Members if written permission is obtained from their District Commissioner and they must wear identifying discs on their bridles in the interests of safety.
4. All competitors must be Members of The Pony Club both at the closing date for entries to the competition and at the date of the relevant competition to be eligible to compete at Area qualifying competitions and the Championships (including Regional Championships).

### **INTERMEDIATE**

#### **Area Competitions:**

##### **A. Riders are NOT eligible if they have:**

- i. Represented GB internationally (Virtual PCIA Dressage does not count)

##### **B. Combination of Horse & Rider are NOT eligible if they have:**

- i. represented any Branch or Centre in Open Area Dressage or above in previous years
- ii. won any British Dressage (or Dressage Ireland) points at Elementary level or above
- iii. competed at BD (or DI) Medium level or above (BD Team/My Quest competitions do not count for the purposes of this rule)

**Championships: as for Area Competitions except that the combination of Horse and Rider are permitted to have:**

- i. won BD (or DI) points at Elementary level
- ii. competed up to BD (or DI) Medium level

### **NOVICE**

**Area Competitions: Riders are NOT eligible if they have:**

- i. competed an Open Area level or above competition in Dressage in the current year or have done so in previous years
- ii. won any BD (or DI) points (BD Preliminary points do not count for the purposes of this rule)
- iii. competed at BD (or DI) Elementary level or above (BD Team/My Quest competitions do not count for the purposes of this rule)
- iv. competed in BD Novice Music classes

**Championships: as for Area Competitions except that the combination of Horse and Rider are permitted to have:**

- i. won BD (or DI) points at Novice level
- ii. competed up to BD (or DI) Elementary level

**OPEN NOVICE** This class is open to Individuals only.

- i. Open to all Members who are not eligible for the Novice.
- ii. Open to any Horse.
- iii. Eligibility is subject to points 1 – 8 at the beginning of this Rule.

### **GRASSROOTS PC80 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Area Competitions:**

**A. Riders are NOT eligible if they have:**

- i. previously represented their Branch or Centre at Novice level or above in any Dressage or Eventing Area Competitions

**B. Combination of Horse and Rider are NOT eligible if they have:**

- i. competed above Prelim level with British Dressage (or DI) or competed at BD Novice My/Team Quest
- ii. previously competed in a Spring Festival Championships

**Championships: as for Area Competitions except that the combination of Horse and Rider are permitted to have:**

- i. competed at BD Novice My/Team Quest

## **PRELIMINARY PC70 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **Area Competitions and Championships:**

Riders must be aged 13 and under on 1st January of the current year.

Riders are NOT eligible if they have previously completed at any Grassroots or above Area or Regional Competition for Dressage.

## **PRELIMINARY PC70 PLUS REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

This is a class solely for individuals. There is no team competition. Members must be aged 14 and over on 1st January of the current year.

Area Competitions and Championships: Riders and NOT eligible if they have previously represented their Branch or Centre at any Grassroots or above Area or Regional Competition in Dressage.

## **FORM OF THE AREA COMPETITION**

The competition comprises:

- a) **The Individual Competition** – the scores for all competitors in the Competitions automatically count for this competition. In addition, Branches/Centres may enter individuals, irrespective of whether they have entered a team or not.
- b) **The Team Competition** – open to teams that must consist of three or four Members from each Branch/Centre of The Pony Club in Great Britain and Northern Ireland (best three scored to count).
- c) **Combined Teams (all levels)** – Members from a Branch/Centre which has not entered a Team in the competition may be combined with Members from another Branch/Centre within their Area to form a Combined Team.

A Combined Team:

- must consist of riders and ponies who would be eligible under these rules to compete in a Branch/ Centre team.
- comprise three or four members from two Branches/Centres only
- contain no more than 2 members drawn from either Branch/Centre
- may only be created with the agreement of both the District Commissioners and/or Centre Proprietors concerned and the Area Representative.
- have a named person with overall responsibility for the Combined Team identified by the District Commissioners and/or Centre Proprietors concerned.
- which finishes in a qualifying position will be eligible to qualify for the Championships and the next placed Branch/Centre team will also qualify.

- d) **Area Teams** – if a Branch has a Member/s who are not included in a team, they may combine with another Branch in a similar situation to form a team to compete at the Area Competition. This team shall not be eligible to qualify for the Intermediate, Novice or Regional Championships, though the individual Members shall be. Such teams will affect the number to qualify for the Championships. Area Teams at the Area Competition must be declared before the start of the competition or they will not count towards the number to qualify.

e) **Area Teams for OPEN level only**

If a Branch/Centre has a Member/s who are entered as individuals at the Area competition and not included in a Branch/Centre team, they may combine with other Branch/ Centre Members to form a team at the Area Competition and also be eligible to qualify for the Open Championships.

The following rules will apply:

- Open Area teams can only be put together by the Area Representative and/or Area Organiser via a draw
- If an Open Area team is in a qualifying position based on the current rules then they will be eligible to qualify for the Championships and the next placed Branch/Centre team will also qualify.
- Every such team must have a named person with overall responsibility for the Area Team identified by the District Commissioners and/or Centre Proprietors concerned
- All qualifying teams will be eligible for all prizes on offer at the Championships.

- f) **Open Novice Competition** – Members may enter the Open Novice Competition at the Area Competition as individuals only. The Open Novice is to be run as an additional section to the Novice competition. Area Competitions may run up to two Open Novice sections if they have more than 20 competitors. If two sections are run, only the 1st placed competitor in each section will qualify for the Championships. If one section is run the 1st and 2nd placed competitors will qualify for the Championships.