



Dressage

Costume Freestyle to Music

The object of this class is to provide entertainment for both the participants and spectators.

This class will be run as a Freestyle to Music Class for 1 rider and horse/pony combination that have already qualified for the National Championships. It will be in a 20m x 40m arena and should be ridden in a costume themed to match and enhance the music used. The ride must tell a story and a brief introduction (max 50 words) must be submitted. Music must be between 4 and 4 ½ minutes, and will be timed from opening to closing halt. Penalties will be incurred for exceeding the time allowed.

The number of entries for this class will be 15 and accepted on a first received basis. Additional entries will be wait listed. There is no requirement for qualification prior to the event but all entries must be deemed suitable by either a Regional Coach or Regional Dressage Rep.

Requirements: Walk and trot on both reins; all types of movements may be used but degree of difficulty may not always gain higher marks and must be correctly executed.

Optional: Canter may be incorporated, props may be used either by helpers, in a static position or carried by the rider, a maximum of 2 static props and 2 helpers are permitted but all props and helpers may only enter the arena, and be removed from, within the time allowed for each competitor (6 minutes including performance time).

Horse/Pony Tack: Saddles, side saddles, bridles, boots, costumes, etc. should be safe and fit correctly, but may be decorated appropriately.

Rider's Costumes, Headwear, Props & Helpers: Hats must be worn and must meet the current RDA Safety standards. Costumes worn and any props used are done so at the riders own risk. Any helpers should also be in costume. A leader if required is separate to any additional helpers.

Tests: Tests may be verbally commanded and/or performed on the lead rein.

Scoring

The Judge will allocate a total mark of 100 marks for:

Harmony between rider and horse/pony	20 marks
Music which appropriately enhances the performance	20 marks
Costume which is most suitable to the rider, horse/pony and the performance	20 marks
Overall entertainment, performance and presentation	40 marks

In the event of equality of marks, the highest marks for overall entertainment & presentation, achieved shall be the winner; if not conclusive the highest marks for way of going and harmony between rider and horse/pony, shall be the winner; if not conclusive the results shall be declared a tie.

Music and Introduction – Both must be handed in at the Secretaries Office at least 2 hours before the start of the class, they must be clearly marked with the competitor's name, number, class number and any specific instructions concerning the music. (Please don't forget to collect these once the class has finished)