

# Arts & Crafts Competition 2019



## Background information about the competition

Officially part of the annual RDA National Championships, the RDA Arts & Crafts competition is always an incredibly popular event! Not only do the classes provide a brilliant opportunity for riders, vaulters and carriage drivers to express themselves through art, but also, as it is open to participants of all ages, it gives *everyone* the chance to take part in a national competition, and to achieve recognition.

In RDA we're constantly amazed by entrants' creativity and imagination, and the passion and excitement each has for RDA is clear to see. Each year, classes are offered for both individual and group artwork, and these can be drawings, paintings, collages, sculptures - or even photography, textile or embroidery creations. The competition is a fantastic way, too, of involving families, schools, colleges and care centres, as participants are encouraged to create their artwork at any time; in RDA sessions, in the classroom or even at home...taking the RDA experience far beyond the arena!

Entries are first judged at regional level, with the overall winners for each class being put forward for the finals, held at Hartpury College in Gloucestershire each July. Only one winning entry per class, per region, can be entered into the finals – so do avoid a tied first place, if at all possible. Class 67 entries should all be included in the finals at Hartpury, and are not to be judged at the regionals (but displaying them there is a great idea!)

## What should I be looking for, as a judge?

We'll be asking you to look at our artists' ability to express themselves in their artwork, and the instant charm and appeal of their pieces.

Consider their use of colour and pattern, where appropriate (or perhaps good use of tone and shading), textures, media used - and the overall composition.

To ensure consistency and fairness to all participants, here are a few guidelines on what to look for when judging the classes, either at the Regional Qualifiers, or at the finals at Hartpury.

## Class 61: Paint me a Picture

Pen/ink, crayon, pastels, charcoal, pencil, acrylic, watercolour or oils

This class can be on any general equestrian subject, *without* needing to be obviously RDA-specific. Consider use of colour, media, overall impression, imagination, originality and appeal. No embellishments should be added as part of the composition (although perhaps one or two little rhinestones or sequins are acceptable, at the judge's discretion).

RDA Vaulting, an RDA riding lesson, Countryside Challenge, the stable yard, stable management (grooming) or perhaps even taking part in a clearly evident RDA educational activity. No embellishments should be added as part of the composition (although perhaps one or two little rhinestones or sequins are acceptable, at the judge's discretion).

## Classes 62 and 63: Collages

All collages in these classes must be clearly relevant to RDA, as detailed in Class 70. Marks should be deducted if they are not. Entries should consist of single-sided artwork created with any kind of suitable media such as paper, fabric, embellishments, printed materials (photographs, magazine cuttings), scrapbooking elements, tactile materials (perhaps hay, horsehair, wool, dry animal feed etc.) adhered to a backing board of card, wood, canvas or similar. Pieces should be suitable for wall mounting. Flat, single-sided pieces of embroidery/textile work on paper, fabric, canvas, aida etc. can also be considered for these classes.

## Classes 64 and 65: Sculptures

Entries in these two classes must be pieces constructed in any suitable (and safely portable) materials, in three dimensions. Textile work which is multi-dimensional should be entered into these classes. Entries should be a sensible size and weight, and be able to stand safely and unsupported on the floor of the main marquee.

## Class 66: Photography **NEW!**

This is a brand new class for this year. Photographs can be in black and white, colour or more tonal effects such as sepia, and should be entirely the work of the participant. Images can be taken using analogue (film) or digital cameras, and should reflect a specific RDA activity or subject, not just a general equestrian theme). Please supply an unframed, ready-printed photograph, no larger than A4, if possible.

## Class 67: RDA 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Class (special class for 2019 only)

All entries in this class must be relevant to the specific theme of celebrating RDA's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, but should be automatically entered in the finals at Hartpury in July.

## Marks to be awarded, by class:

Class	Relevance to RDA	Originality/ Colours & Materials*	Overall Impression / Appeal	Total Marks
61		25	50	75
62	25	25	50	100
63	25	25	50	100
64	25	25	50	100
65	25	25	50	100
66	25	25	50	100
67	<b>All entries in this special class automatically qualify for the finals at Hartpury (they do not need to be judged in the regions)</b>			

- For Class 66 (Photography) consider: "Composition and eye for subject"