



## Musical Ride/Carriage Drive DVD Competition

Each entry should present a drill ride or carriage drive with riders and helpers smartly dressed – for example in their matching group sweatshirts - on suitable ponies/horses. If they wish to use modest fancy dress, for example to dress as soldiers to reflect marching music, then that is also acceptable.

There are two classes for the Drill Ride, one is for those riders who are led, with or without side walkers. The second one is for those riders who ride independently, without leaders or side walkers. (Their coach may stand at the side of the arena in case of an emergency. In both classes, presentations will be marked down if the ride is 'called'.

For those classes that have a side walker then any current COVID-19 RDA rules apply.

### BACKGROUND

Since the inception of this competition, it was planned that Groups should go 'BACK TO BASICS' where the performance of a Musical Ride/Carriage Drive could reflect the coaching of flatwork skills and school movements which are included in most RDA sessions. The competition also invites groups to demonstrate imagination and innovation in their coaching methods which make their RDA sessions so enjoyable for all our participants.

Music has been shown to be a powerful element to improve and energise the performance of both horse and rider or carriage driver and each year the judges look forward to seeing a wider use of music and movements to do just that.

Once again, the judges are most definitely not looking for 'professional' productions.

### COMPETITION RULES AND GUIDELINES

- 1. Participants** - For each ridden entry, in both the led and independently ridden classes, there can be a minimum of 3 riders and a maximum of 8 riders. There can be one or more carriages in the driven class.
- 2. Timings** – Each performance should include a short, clear introduction. The introduction should include the title of the ride/drive and the name of the group. Wherever possible, the riders/carriage drivers should introduce themselves in whatever way is considered suitable. The judges are keen to be aware of the participants' abilities and personalities before watching their performance. The introduction can be with or without music. The performance should also include an ending where riders/drivers perform a halt in time with the music ending. Including the introduction, the whole performance must be at least 6 minutes and not exceed 9 minutes.
- 3. Ages** - Entries may have mixed age groups.
- 4. Health and Safety** - Hats, footwear, tack/harness etc. must conform to all current RDA Health & Safety standards. If skirts etc. are worn trousers/jodhpurs must be worn underneath if saddles are used. Marks will be deducted if any RDA H&S criteria are not met. All equipment/props and dress used should have had a risk assessment to ensure that it is safe for use in an RDA riding/carriage driving session. Riders must ride astride unless a side saddle is used.
- 5. Music** – The performance can use music of any genre and use more than one piece of music. Vocals are acceptable as long as they are not too distracting. However, please bear

in mind that the music needs to be clearly heard by the judges watching so the original recording quality is important.

Choosing music which is suitable for walk (4 beat rhythm), trot (2 beat rhythm) and, where used, canter (3 beat rhythm) will enhance your performance and marks. It needs to have energy, and motivate the riders, drivers and helpers to produce an entertaining performance. Dance and marching type music can work well for drill work.

6. **Choreography** – Try to make the floor patterns as interesting as possible and include imaginative and innovative school movements which can be used to extend those usually used in Group sessions. Ideas can be discussed with your County or Regional Coach who will be pleased to help and advise you.

7. **Filming** – The judges are looking for a production which includes a view of the whole ride and also zooms in for close ups occasionally at appropriate moments.

8. **Scoring** – An example score sheet can be downloaded from the RDA website.

9. **Entries** – Each group may submit multiple entries for each class of the competition. This year it will be direct entry to the Virtual Winter National Championships. Entries for the National round of the competition are £6.00 per rider/driver. Entries cannot be changed or edited between the Regional Judging Round and the National Championships Final Judging.

Each recording must have been produced in 'one take' and not been edited in any way.

All video's must state clearly stating the class, title of the Ride or Carriage Drive, the name of the group and region.

**ALL RIDDEN DRESSAGE TESTS WILL BE IN A 20 X 40 ARENA**

**THE CARRIAGE DRIVING DRESSAGE TEST WILL BE IN A 60 X 30 ARENA**

### **Closing Date for Virtual National Championships**

- Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022

### **Entry Fee**

- £6.00 per rider / driver