



RDA VIRTUAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

SATURDAY 29th & SUNDAY 30th October 2022

SCHEDULE



Welcome

Following the success of the Virtual National Championships in 2021, we are delighted to be able to run a Virtual Winter National Championships to be held Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th October 2022. The Virtual Winter National Championships will include many of the usual disciplines and we are hopeful it may even encourage more people to take part, as there will not be any travel involved.

Please find below the schedule for the Virtual Winter National Championships including what classes will be running and also discipline specific information.

Please note Competitors will not need to qualify for the Virtual Winter National Championships. It will be direct entry.

Several resources and guides have been put together on how best to video the test or discipline you wish to take part in. This can be found on the National Championships page of the MYRDA website. The link is: <https://www.myrda.org.uk/runningyourgroup/national-championships/>

Similar to last year we will be using the entry system we have used for the National Championships for the past four years which is Horse Monkey. It will be direct entry this year with no need to qualify. Entries will open on the 1st May and close on Friday 30th September so gives you plenty of time to enter. If you wish to enter the Virtual Winter National Championships please visit Horse Monkey: https://horsemonkey.com/search_events

A guide has been produced on how you enter, this can be found on the National Championships page of the MYRDA website. <https://www.myrda.org.uk/runningyourgroup/national-championships/>

Best wishes and good luck.

Anne Coney

National Championship Lead

Carriage Driving

The Virtual Championships Carriage Driving competition 2022 consists only of the 2022 Virtual Championships Driven Dressage test.

The objective of the driven dressage test is to judge the freedom, regularity of paces, harmony, impulsion, suppleness, lightness, ease of movement and correct bending of the horse on the move. Drivers will also be judged on style, accuracy, dress, control of the horse and general condition of their horse, harness and carriage.

The driver with the lowest number of penalties will win the competition.

Driver Categories

a) Novice

- Any driver who drives with dual reins, who requires verbal guidance from their CD Coach, and has not won the novice class at any previous RDA National Championships.
- The winner of the Novice class, at any previous National Championships, will move up to the Intermediate class for future competitions.

b) Intermediate

- Any driver who drives with dual reins, who does not require verbal guidance from their CD Coach, and has not won the intermediate class at any previous RDA National Championships.
- The winner of the Intermediate class at any previous National Championships will move up to the Open class for future competitions.

c) Open

- Any driver who has been assessed to drive with single reins with their CD Coach sitting beside them.
- Any driver who has been assessed to drive with single reins and assessed as competent for their CD Coach to back step.
- Open drivers whose carriage is not able to be set up for side-by-side driving may have their CD Coach standing on their backstep.
- Any driver to competed at RDA National Championships in 2022

The organisers reserve the right to transfer drivers to a different class if felt appropriate.

Arena and Test.

The arena size for the dressage test is a maximum of 60m x 30m and a minimum of 50m x 20m. The markers down the long side are laid out with equal spacing.

The following links give the Competitor's sheet and the Competitor's Diagram sheet.

<https://www.myrda.org.uk/assets/2021-RDA-Virtual-Champs-Carriage-Driving-Test-COMPETITOR-DIAGRAMS-2-Pages-pdf.pdf>

<https://www.myrda.org.uk/assets/2021-RDA-Virtual-Champs-Carriage-Driving-Test-COMPETITORS-SHEET.pdf>

For full competition rules please see the RDA Rule Book.

Closing Date for Virtual National Championships

- Friday 30th September 2022

Entry Fee

- £12 for Virtual National Championships
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Countryside Challenge

For full competition rules please see the RDA Competition Rule Book. For more information on the course and different equipment that could be used please see the Countryside Challenge section of the National Championships Page on the MYRDA website or click the following link: <https://www.myrda.org.uk/runningyourgroup/national-championships/countryside-challenge/>

Classes are split into Junior and Senior.

- Junior Riders – May compete as Juniors until the end of the year in which they reach the age of 16.
- Senior Riders – Riders over the age of 16.
- Open Riders – Riders who have been Overall Class Champion in the same class for 2 consecutive years at the RDA National Championships.
Competitors who competed at the RDA National Championships 2022.

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

Closing Date for Virtual National Championships

- Friday 30th September 2022

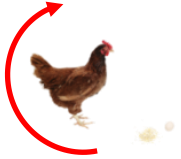
Entry Fee

- £12

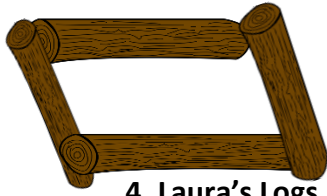


2. Double Archway
Clytha Clouds
Haworth Rainbow

OR



3. Barrel Circle

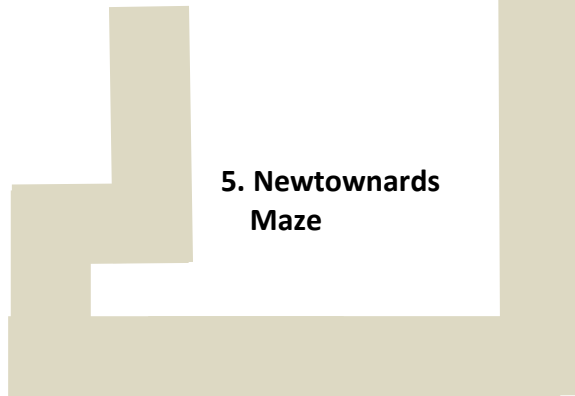


4. Laura's Logs



6. Bridle Path

9. Riverside Stretching
Walk



5. Newtownards
Maze



START 1. Seven Obstacles

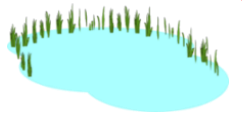
10. GWR Great Wellow
Railway Crossing



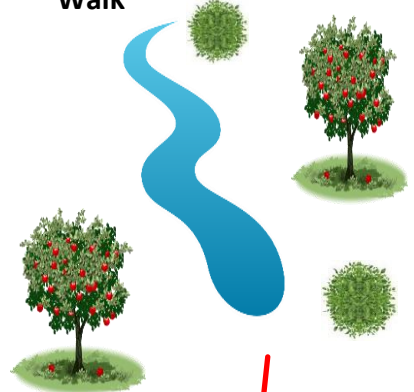
8. Stevie Scarecrow



Pond



7



Dressage

All dressage classes should be held in 20m x 40m arena or on grass. All letters must be clearly visible.

Classes are divided in to Junior, Senior and Open.

- Junior Riders – May compete as Juniors until the end of the year in which they reach the age of 16.
- Senior Riders – Riders over the age of 16 who are not an Open Rider.
- Open Riders – Riders who have competed FEI or BD Para Silver or Bronze Championships in the previous 4 years and those that have been Overall Class Champion in the same class for 2 consecutive years at the RDA National Championships.
Competitors who ride within an Accessibility Mark Centre or who competed at the RDA National Championships 2022.
Competitors who competed at the RDA National Championships in 2022

If the test is being commanded then the commander needs to stand at E, if possible according to the RDA Rule Book.

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

For full dressage rules please consult the RDA Rule Book.

Closing Date for Virtual National Championships

- Friday 30th September 2022

Entry Fee

- £12.00

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 stat 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 30th September 2022

Entry Fee

- £6.00 per rider / driver

Showing

Following on from the success of the SEIB Search for a star competition we are delighted to announce that we will be running three RDA Showing classes as part of the RDA National Virtual Championships.

There is a series of showing training videos available to watch on the RDA YouTube channel

The three classes are as follows:

- Ridden Horses / Ponies Led (Walk & Trot)
- Ridden Horse / Ponies Unled (Walk & Trot)
- Ridden Horses / Ponies Unled (Walk, Trot & Canter)

Classes will be judged on:

- Turnout – cleanliness and condition of equine/tack
- Conformation of the equine with the suitability for the rider/job in mind
- Overall impression

The show should comprise of a short video of the whole horse stood still including legs and body. The rider should then move onto an individual display to include; walk, trot and Canter if applicable and changes of rein. For more details on judging criteria and what is required in an individual show please see the RDA Competitions Rule Book.

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

Closing Date for Virtual National Championships

- Friday 30th September 2022

Entry Fee

- £12.00

Showjumping

RDA Level Showjumping		
RDA Showjumping	Level 1	Poles on the ground
	Level 2	30 cm
	Level 3	60 cm
	Level 4	70 cm
		Double max height 60 cm

All showjumping classes are run under RDA rules Please consult the RDA Rule Book for full details on competition expectations.

Classes are split into Junior and Senior.

- Junior Riders – May compete as Juniors until the end of the year in which they reach the age of 16.
- Senior Riders – Riders over the age of 16.
- Open Riders – Riders who have been Overall Class Champion in the same class for 2 consecutive years at the RDA National Championships.
Competitors who competed at the RDA National Championships 2022.

Course plans and further information can also be found here
<https://www.myrda.org.uk/runningyourgroup/showjumping/>

Closing Date for Virtual National Championships

- Friday 30th September 2022

Entry Fee

- £12.00

Vaulting

The competition will be run according to BEV rules for Pre Novice Individuals, Pairs and Teams and will be scored accordingly. The full BEV rules can be found in the BEV rule book on line <http://britishvaulting.org/get-involved/rules/bev-rules/>

Team Competition

Teams are made up of 6 vaulters, one horse and a lunger. The vaulting team may include up to 2 non-disabled vaulters who must be RDA volunteers.

There are two elements of the competition which will run consecutively and music should be used in all sections.

1. Run in and bow to the judge.
Bow to judge and run out at the end.
2. Freestyle. The freestyle section should include work in singles and pairs but not in threes. Freestyle should be performed in walk. Time allowed for freestyle is 4 minutes (max).

Pairs Competition

This will be run as an open competition with no age restrictions.

- On the barrel, freestyle
- On the horse, freestyle

Individual Competition

Individuals will be split into 3 age groups:

- a. 10 years and under
- b. 11 – 16 years
- c. 17 years and over

Classes will be split so that individuals can choose to perform on the barrel or horse. They will not be permitted to do compulsories on the horse then freestyle on the barrel or vice versa. Classes will be as follows:

- On the barrel, pre novice compulsories and freestyle – all ages
- On the horse, pre novice compulsories and freestyle – all ages
- On the horse pre novice canter compulsories and walk freestyle – all ages
- On the horse pre novice canter compulsories and canter freestyle – all ages

If insufficient entries, age groups in classes will be amalgamated.

For full Vaulting rules please see the RDA Rule Book.

Closing Date

- Friday 30th September 2022

Entry Fee

- Team Competition £50.00
- Pairs Online £18.00
- Individual £12.00

Class	Description	Grade	Test
1	Dressage - Championships	TVI (walk only)	TVI/PVI Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
2	Dressage - Championships	PVI (walk only)	TVI/PVI Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
3	Dressage - Championships	TVI (walk & trot)	TVI/PVI Championships Test Walk & Trot (2022)
4	Dressage - Championships	PVI (walk & trot)	TVI/PVI Championships Test Walk & Trot (2022)
5	Dressage - Championships	TVI (canter)	TVI/PVI Championship Test Canter (2022)
6	Dressage - Championships	PVI (canter)	TVI/PVI Championship Test Canter (2022)
7	Dressage - Championships	4	Grade 4 Championship Test (2022)
8	Dressage - Championships	5	Grade 5 Championship Test (2022)
9	Dressage - Championships	1-6 (walk & trot)	Grade 6 Walk & Trot Championship Test (2022)
10	Dressage - Championships	1-6 (canter)	Grade 6 Canter Championship Test (2022)
11	Dressage - Championships	(I/D) Canter	I/D Canter Championship Test (2022)
12	Dressage – Championships	Led (walk & trot)	Introduction to Dressage Championship Test Walk & Trot (2022)
13	Dressage - Freestyle	TVI (walk only)	Grade 1 Freestyle to Music (2020)
14	Dressage - Freestyle	PVI (walk only)	Grade 1 Freestyle to Music (2020)
15	Dressage - Freestyle	TVI (walk & trot)	Grade 2 Freestyle to Music (2020)
16	Dressage - Freestyle	PVI (walk & trot)	Grade 2 Freestyle to Music (2020)
17	Dressage - Freestyle	TVI (canter)	Grade 4 Freestyle to Music (2020)
18	Dressage - Freestyle	PVI (canter)	Grade 4 Freestyle to Music (2020)
19	Dressage - Freestyle	4	Grade 4 Freestyle to Music (2020)
20	Dressage - Freestyle	5	Grade 5 Freestyle to Music (2020)
21	Dressage - Freestyle	1-6 (walk & trot)	Grade 6 Walk & Trot Freestyle to Music (2020)
22	Dressage - Freestyle	1-6 (canter)	Grade 6 Canter Freestyle to Music (2020)
23	Dressage - Freestyle	I/D (canter)	Grade 6 Canter Freestyle to Music (2020)
24	Dressage - Championships	1	Grade 1 Championship Test (2022)
25	Dressage - Championships	2	Grade 2 Championship Test (2022)
26	Dressage - Championships	3	Grade 3 Championship Test (2022)
27	Dressage - Championships	1-6 (walk only)	Grade 6 Walk Only Championship Test (2022)
28	Dressage - Championships	I/D (walk only)	I/D Walk Only Championship Test (2022)
29	Dressage - Championships	I/D (walk & trot)	I/D Walk & Trot Championship Test (2022)
30	Dressage – Championships	Led (walk only)	Introduction to Dressage Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
31	Dressage - Freestyle	1	Grade 1 Freestyle to Music (2020)
32	Dressage - Freestyle	2	Grade 2 Freestyle to Music (2020)
33	Dressage - Freestyle	3	Grade 3 Freestyle to Music (2020)
34	Dressage - Freestyle	1-6 (walk only)	Grade 6 Walk Only Freestyle to Music (2020)
35	Dressage - Freestyle	I/D (walk only)	Grade 6 Walk Only Freestyle to Music (2020)

36	Dressage - Freestyle	I/D (walk & trot)	Grade 6 Walk & Trot Freestyle to Music (2020)
37	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior	Led with 1 side walker
38	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior	Led or 1 side walker
39	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior	Visually Impaired Led with 1 side walker
40	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior	Visually Impaired led or 1 side walker
41	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior	Independent
42	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior	Visually Impaired Independent
43	RDA Showjumping	Level 1	
44	RDA Showjumping	Level 2	30cm
45	RDA Showjumping	Level 3	60cm
46	RDA Showjumping	Level 4	70cm
47	Carriage Driving	Novice	RDA Carriage Driving Test 2022
48	Carriage Driving	Intermediate	RDA Carriage Driving Test 2022
49	Carriage Driving	Open	RDA Carriage Driving Test 2022
50	Showing	Led	Walk & Trot
51	Showing	Unled	Walk & Trot
52	Showing	Unled	Walk, Trot & Canter
53	Vaulting - Individual	10 years & under 11 – 16 years 17 years & over	Walk Compulsories/Walk Freestyle
54	Vaulting - Individual	10 years & under 11 – 16 years 17 years & over	Canter Compulsories/Walk Freestyle
55	Vaulting - Individual	10 years & under 11 – 16 years 17 years & over	Canter Compulsories/Canter Freestyle
56	Vaulting - Pairs	All Ages	Walk
57	Vaulting - Barrel	Team	
58	Vaulting - Barrel	Individual	All Ages
59	Musical Drill Ride	Led	With or without side walker(s)
60	Musical Drill Ride	Unled	Independent
61	Musical Drill Drive	Drive	

Rules and Regulations

- Each recording must have been produced in 'one take' and not been edited in any way.
- All video's must state clearly the class, participants name/s, group name, date video was taken and clearly state it is for the 2022 Virtual National Championships. Two marks will be deducted for no introduction for every discipline.
- Things to think about when filming:
 - Always ensure that RDA Safeguarding policies and guidance are adhered to at all times
 - Where possible please avoid anything that provides personal or identifying information in the background or setting where the video is taking place.
 - Ensure that you only have the horse and participants combination in the film that you are recording
 - Make sure all competitors and leaders are wearing the correct competition dress and no inappropriate clothing is worn.
 - Make sure all tack and equipment is in line with rules in the RDA Competition Rulebook.
 - Do not share the video content with anyone else apart from uploading the image onto YouTube and Horse Monkey.
 - Please make sure you use own device to record.
 - Where possible use the minimum amount of devices to record the film.
 - The device you have used for the recording will need to have a secure Wi-Fi connection to upload the video onto Horse Monkey.
 - If needed please connect the device used to record to a laptop or computer rather than sending via an email or file transfer.
 - Please make sure you delete the video from your device once you have uploaded it onto YouTube/Horse Monkey and received an email confirmation.
- All Competitors to have completed the Filming Permission Release Form.
- Competitors may enter both the National Championships and the Virtual National Championships. Those competitors that qualify and compete at The National Championships must then enter the open section of the Virtual Winter National Championships for that year.
- Competitors must wear normal competition dress as per the RDA Rule Book. Please note this doesn't have to be beige breeches and shirt and jacket. RDA sweatshirts and smart coloured jodhpurs are acceptable.
- For those classes that have a leader or side walker then correct clothing and footwear must be worn.
- For those classes that have a side walker then any current COVID-19 RDA rules apply. Please be aware that these COVID-19 rules are subject to change.
- Groups should undertake a COVID-19 risk assessment for activities needed in order to compete in the Virtual National Championships.
- Each group should maintain a list of their participants, coaches and grooms that were attending on the day of videoing for the Virtual National Championships. This should include approximate time of arrival and departure. These records should be kept for 21 days.
- Competitors must be medically fit for the activities they undertake. It is the responsibility of all competitors to ensure that they are medically fit to compete.

Where necessary their parents/guardians must take this responsibility. The organisers reserve the right to require any competitor to withdraw.

- Equines must be fit and sensible for the activities they undertake.
- The use of any herbal, natural or chemical product to affect the performance of a horse or pony in a calming (tranquillising) manner is strictly forbidden under RDA rules. The use of such products during competition has important safety and welfare consequences.
- Horses and ponies must be five years old or over.
- Any height of horse or pony is allowed in any class.
- In line with standard RDA policy, stallions must not be used in any RDA competitions.
- Bitless bridles are not permitted in any discipline.
- Each horse may only be videoed a maximum of five ridden classes including lead rein on one day. These must not comprise of more than four in any one discipline.
- Before entering the National Championships, please ensure that you consult the RDA weight charts to ensure that your horse/rider or horse/carriage combination is suitable. We will be monitoring this at the Virtual Championships.
RDA has created an excel calculator to help groups work out the maximum carrying weight a horse can carry. Please see the RDA website (Horses and RDA) for further information.
RDA reserves the right to check any rider/horse combination considered not to comply with the limits set out on the weight chart on RDA's website.
If a combination is found to be outside the parameters action may be taken.
- It is the sole responsibility of riders/guardians to ensure that at all times while on horseback, they wear correctly fitted protective headgear and that chin straps must be securely fastened.
- For graded Dressage classes please ensure proof of classification is attached to your entry when entering.