

Arts & Crafts Competition 2020



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!

How should I select regional winners in each class?

Entries are first judged at regional level, with the overall winners for each class **(one each for both the Junior and Senior sections, where applicable)** being put forward for the finals at Hartpury College in Gloucestershire each July. Only one winning entry per class section, per region, can be entered into the finals – so do avoid a tied first place in any age section, if at all possible.

What should I be looking for, as a judge?

Unlike in previous years, entries in ALL classes can now simply feature any general equestrian subject, without needing to be obviously 'RDA-specific' or feature RDA logos etc. in the design.

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 68: Individual Paintings & Drawings

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

Consider use of colour, media, overall impression, imagination, originality and appeal. No embellishments should be added as part of the composition. Maximum size A1.

Classes 69 and 70: Collages

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. Maximum size A1 (Group) and A2 (Individual).

Classes 71 and 72: 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, or on a table, in the main marquee.

Class 73: Photography

Photographs can be in black and white, colour or more tonal effects such as sepia, and should be taken by the participant themselves. Images can be taken using analogue (film) or digital cameras. Please supply an unframed, ready-printed photograph. This class is for individual entrants only

Class 74: A Picture for the RDA National Training Centre, Warwickshire

Entries in this class must be paintings, drawings or lightweight collages only, up to a maximum A2 size, and should be judged at the regional qualifiers, in the same way as all other classes. Entries can be made by individual artists, or as a group of up to 4.

Marks to be awarded, by class:

Class	Relevance to class	Composition / eye for Subject	Originality and imagination	Use of colour/ materials	Overall impression	Total Marks
68	20	20	20	20	20	100
69	20	20	20	20	20	100
70	20	20	20	20	20	100
71	20	20	20	20	20	100
72	20	20	20	20	20	100
73	20	20	20	20	20	100
74	20	20	20	20	20	100

Judging sheets for each class are available to download from the MyRDA website: and will also be included in the regional qualifier packs, for organisers.