



RDA



VIRTUAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th November 2023
2023 PROGRAMME

RDA
www.rda.org.uk

A MESSAGE FROM THE RDA CHAIR ELECT



Welcome to the RDA Virtual National Championships 2023, for our third successive year of online competition.

The RDA Virtual National Championships is one of the biggest and most accessible equestrian events in the world and offers an opportunity to compete at a national level, from the

familiarity of a home setting, whilst cheered on by a global online audience!

I'm sure you'll join me in wishing all our competitors the best of luck – their determination and skills are truly inspiring and embody the 'can do' ethos of RDA. We're very proud of them and I hope you'll join me in watching the action over the weekend of 18 and 19 November.

I also want to thank everyone for all the hard work, dedication and passion that goes into supporting our competitors

behind the scenes; and to thank our sponsors and supporters who help make these Championships possible. We couldn't do it without you.

Good luck to all!



HELENA VEGA-LOZANO
RDA Chair Of Trustees



HOW TO WATCH:

We will be showing the top three competitors from each section in each class in reverse order during the Virtual event on Saturday 18th and Sunday 19th November 2023.

Watch live on our Facebook page [facebook.com/RDANational](https://www.facebook.com/RDANational) or on our RDA website [rda.org.uk](https://www.rda.org.uk).

To see when classes are taking place, please visit the timetable on pages 18 – 22.



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A-LEVELS | DIPLOMAS | DEGREES



Dear Competitor

Welcome to the 2023 Virtual Championships. These Championships were introduced in 2021 and have proved to be a great success. They give many participants, who cannot travel to the National Championships the chance to compete. On this success I am delighted to report that the Virtual Championships are now an annual event. I hope you have all enjoyed entering this year and my thanks go to all the judges who have given so much time judging the entries. I hope you will all be watching the Championships on Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th November.

Anne

ANNE CONEY
Chair National RDA
Championships

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE



Virtual National Championships Chairman:
Anne Coney



Virtual National Championships Secretary:
Fiona Harris



Secretary Support:
Katie O'Brien

DISCIPLINE & DEPARTMENT LEADS



Carriage Driving:

Countryside Challenge:
Sue Mack

Dressage:
Sarah-Jane Prew

Musical Ride & Carriage Drive:
Anne Coney

Showing:
Ginny Oakley-Pope

Showjumping:
Sally-Anne O'Neill

Vaulting:
Lizzie Bennett





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CARRIAGE DRIVING

SUPPORTED BY RED GORILLA

Carriage Driving has been an important part of RDA since 1975 and there are now over 60 groups throughout the UK, giving driving opportunities to over 1000 drivers. It is also enjoyed by people who can no longer ride due to disability, or who prefer a different kind of equine challenge.

Each group has specialised vehicles which take both ambulant and non-ambulant drivers. Wheelchairs and adaptations to the harness cater for the needs of all.

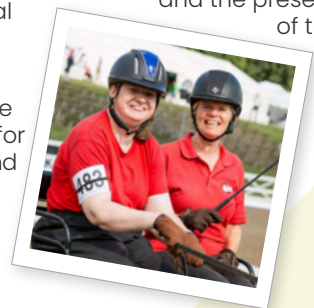
We are very lucky to have volunteers helping at Carriage Driving Groups to ensure that each driver enjoys their chosen aspect of our sport.

Drivers are accompanied by a knowledgeable and competent Carriage Driving Coach who has a second set of reins to assist if required. The groups drive in both indoor and outdoor arenas, on tracks, in woods and on the road depending on their venue and their facilities. All are different! Drivers enjoy working for their proficiency tests, practicing dressage movements and tests, driving through cones or natural obstacles such as groups of trees, and competing at both local shows and the National Championships.

At this year's Virtual Championships, we are offering three classes for Novice, Intermediate and

Open competitors who will just drive a dressage test. Normally competitors would be asked to do a cones course followed by 2 or 4 obstacles.

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 horses on the move. Drivers will also be judged on style, accuracy and general control of their horses, and on their dress, condition of their harness and carriage and the presentation of the whole turnout.





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COUNTRYSIDE CHALLENGE

SUPPORTED BY KINGSLEY NAPLEY LLP

With its focus on Achievement, Progression, Confidence and Enjoyment, the Countryside Challenge is a development of skills acquired in everyday RDA Sessions.

During the course - which is based on grassroot school movements, dressage, show jumping, endurance and of course FUN - Riders have the opportunity to put their skills to the test in this "Challenging" adventure.

Classes are split into Junior, Senior & Open sections. At this year's Virtual Championships, we are including the following Classes:

- Led with 2 side walkers
– **New for 2023**
- Led with 1 side walker
- Led **or** 1 side walker
- Independently ridden
- Visually Impaired led with 1 side walker
- Visually Impaired Led with 1 side walker
- Visually Impaired Led **or** 1 side walker
- Visually Impaired Independently ridden



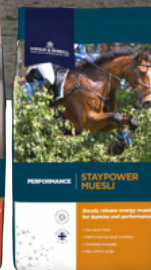
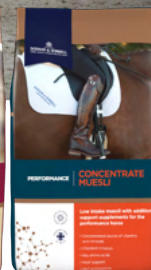
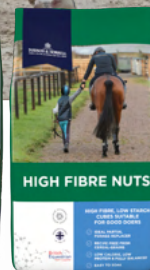
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DRESSAGE



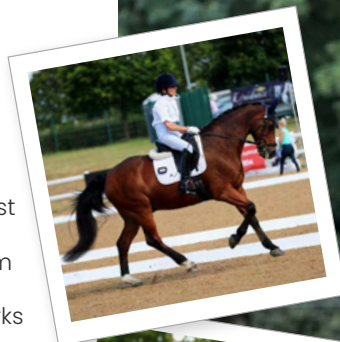
SUPPORTED BY DODSON & HORRELL

Dressage offers the opportunity for riders to show a judge, parents, friends and helpers what has been achieved during RDA sessions. It can also help a coach to set goals, allowing the riders to demonstrate often hidden reservoirs of determination to achieve and can vividly show the benefits of previous instruction.

Dressage plays a huge part of the Virtual National Championships with a variety of classes on offer this year both Championships Classes and Freestyle Classes. We have also included this year a class that can have a leader and a side walker.

They ride a specific test with a predetermined pattern in a 20m x 40m arena. A judge marks the test, they give marks out of ten for each movement set out in the test, at the end of the test the marks are added up and the winner is the combination with the highest score.

Dependent on their impairment and/or experience, participants can ride tests in walk only, walk and trot or walk, trot and canter. Dressage is a multi-disability activity but at the Virtual National Championships, intellectual disability and visually impaired riders can choose to ride in their own classes.





Imagine the **possibilities**,
realize the **potential**.

Oliver Wight
OLIVER WIGHT



At Oliver Wight, we believe in achieving a sustainable future, not only for our own organization and our clients, but within the wider community too.

That's why we have proudly sponsored the RDA for over 13 years and continue to support their mission to enrich lives and change the futures of thousands of people through education, therapy, and fun.

The RDA riders are an inspiration. The entire Oliver Wight team wishes them the best of luck.

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MUSICAL RIDE & CARRIAGE DRIVE

SUPPORTED BY OLIVER WRIGHT EAME LLP

The Musical Ride and Carriage Drive Classes have been running for a number of years and are a great way for groups to get involved within the Virtual Championships and for riders to perform as a team.

There are two ridden classes on offer and one driven. Each entry should present a drill ride or carriage drive with riders and helpers smartly dressed using modest fancy dress if they wish, to reflect the drill ride they are demonstrating.

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.



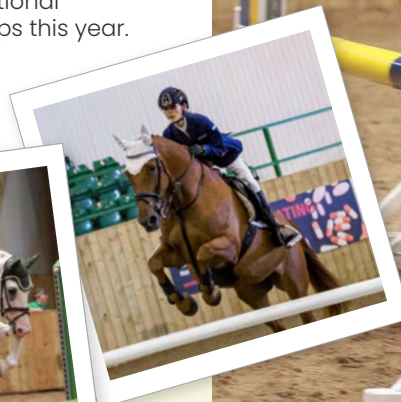
SHOWJUMPING

SUPPORTED BY OLIVER WRIGHT EAME LLP

RDA Showjumping has its own unique Pathway giving participants valuable opportunities to take part in RDA Competitions and RDA Showjumping Proficiency Tests. The pathway entails of 5 levels, beginning at poles on the ground through to an 80cm course, catering for all.

Showjumping has proved to be a popular discipline within RDA and now has over 140 Groups taking part in level 2 or above and all groups are now able to take part in level 1, it is set to soar in the coming years.

We will be showcasing levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 at the Virtual National Championships this year.





SHOWING

SUPPORTED BY OLIVER WRIGHT EAME LLP

Showing is really starting to take off within RDA although it is still a relatively new discipline.

Showing teaches you how to put in a performance and accept the judges' comments as a positive way to improve. It is also a great start for a horse's education, as it teaches manners and gives exposure to the show environment without the exacting pressure of a dressage test or showjumping round.

The competition is open to all RDA riders who can walk and trot.

Classes will be judged on turnout: cleanliness and condition of equine and tack, suitability of equine

for the rider and job and 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 change of rein.

Riders should be neatly turned out, clean and tidy but tack and saddlery suitable for the rider not the show ring will be encouraged.



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VAULTING

SUPPORTED BY CHILDS FARM

Vaulting is gymnastics with a moving horse. The aim of vaulting is to improve the vaulters balance, co-ordination and confidence. It is a team sport and as such promotes co-operation and team spirit. The horses are not saddled but wear a surcingle roller and a thick back pad. The surcingle roller has special handles which aid the vaulter in performing certain moves as well as leather loops.

Teams are made up of 6 vaulters who work with one horse under the control of a lunger or a barrel. Pairs classes will run with no age restriction in walk and trot and can take place on a horse or barrel. Individuals can ride either on the barrel or horse and will be split into 3 age groups: Junior, Senior and Open.

Vaulting has significant therapeutic benefits; you can work as a team to achieve a goal which can have a huge impact on self-confidence. Vaulting also has significant physical benefits it is a great discipline for improving balance, stability motor skills, flexibility and coordination.



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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEKEND

SATURDAY EVENT TIMES



CLASS	TIME	EVENT	SECTION
	10:00	Welcome and official start to the Virtual National Championships from RDA Chair Helena Vega - Lozano	
	10:02	Good Luck Messages	
ADVERT	10:04	Sponsors advert Dodson and Horrell	
1	10:04	Dressage Totally Visually Impaired Walk Only Championship	Junior & Senior
3	10:11	Dressage Partially Visually Impaired Walk Only Championships	Junior & Senior
6	10:16	Dressage Totally Visually Impaired Walk & Trot Championships	Open
7	10:20	Dressage Partially Visually Impaired Walk & Trot Championships	Junior & Senior
ADVERT		Sponsors advert Kingsley Napley	
49	10:25	Countryside Challenge Led with 2 side walkers	Junior, Senior & Open
52	10:50	Countryside Challenge Independent	Junior, Senior & Open
55	11:20	Countryside Challenge Visually Impaired Led or 1 side walker	Junior, Senior & Open
13	11:24	Dressage Grade 1 Championships	Junior & Senior
14	11:31	Dressage Grade 1 Championships	Open
15	11:38	Dressage Grade 2 Championships	Junior & Senior
16	11:49	Dressage Grade 2 Championships	Open
BREAK	12:05	LUNCH BREAK	
ADVERT	12:30	Sponsors advert Kingsley Napley	
80	12:30	Musical Drill Ride Led	
82	12:51	Musical Drill Drive	
ADVERT	13:01	Sponsors advert Childs Farm	
69	13:01	Vaulting Individual - Walk Freestyle	H1
71	13:11	Vaulting Individual - Canter Compulsories/Walk Freestyle	H3 Pre-Novice
72	13:15	Vaulting Individual - Canter Compulsories/Canter Freestyle	H4 Novice
75	13:17	Vaulting Individual - Compulsories/Barrel Freestyle	B3 Novice

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEKEND

**SATURDAY EVENT
TIMES**



CLASS	EVENT	SECTION
76	13:19 Vaulting Pairs Walk Freestyle	
77	13:23 Vaulting Pairs Barrel Freestyle	
41	13:25 Dressage Freestyle Walk Only	TVI, PVI & Grade 1
42	13:32 Dressage Freestyle Walk & Trot	TVI, PVI & Grade 2
44	13:37 Dressage Freestyle Canter	TVI, PVI & Grade 4
ADVERT	13:44 Sponsors advert Oliver Wight EAME LLP	
57	13:45 Showjumping - Led	Level 1
58	14:07 Showjumping - Unled	Level 1
62	14:15 Showjumping	Level 4
23	14:16 Dressage Championship Grade 6 Walk Only	Junior & Senior
24	14:37 Dressage Championship Grade 6 Walk Only	Open
25	14:53 Dressage Championship Grade 6 Walk & Trot	Junior & Senior
26	15:28 Dressage Championship Grade 6 Walk & Trot	Open
27	15:46 Dressage Championship Grade 6 Canter	Junior & Senior
28	16:07 Dressage Championships Grade 6 Canter	Open
CLOSE	16:21 Fiona Harris National Championships Co-ordinator	

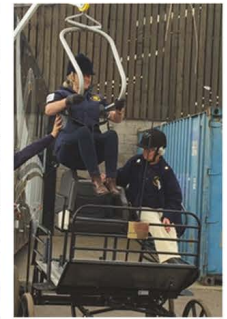




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“The hoist allows freedom to riders who require mounting facilities”

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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEKEND

**SUNDAY
EVENT TIMES**



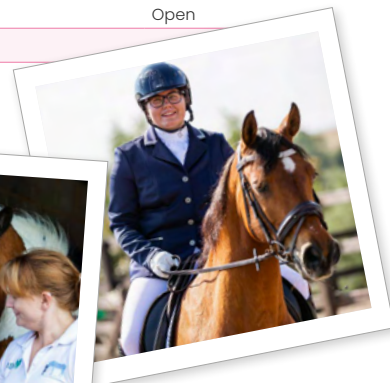
CLASS	TIME	EVENT	SECTION
	09:00	Welcome and official start to the Virtual National Championships from RDA Chair Helena Vega - Lozano	
	09:02	Good Luck Messages	
ADVERT	09:03	Sponsors advert Red Gorilla	
63	09:03	Carriage Driving	Novices
64	09:12	Carriage Driving	Intermediate
65	09:16	Carriage Driving	Open
ADVERT	09:19	Sponsors advert Dodson & Horrell	
17	09:19	Dressage Championship Grade 3	Junior & Senior
18	09:30	Dressage Championship Grade 3	Open
19	09:40	Dressage Championship Grade 4	Junior & Senior
22	09:52	Dressage Championship Grade 4	Open
ADVERT	09:58	Sponsors advert Kingsley Napley	
50	09:58	Countryside Challenge Led with 1 side walker	Junior, Senior & Open
51	10:24	Countryside Challenge Led or 1 side walker	Junior, Senior & Open
54	10:57	Countryside Challenge Visually Impaired Led with 1 side walker	Junior, Senior & Open
ADVERT	11:05	Sponsors advert Oliver Wight EAME LLP	
66	11:05	Showing Walk & Trot	Led
67	11:14	Showing Walk & Trot	Un-led
46	11:20	Dressage Freestyle Walk Only	Grade 6 & 7
47	11:25	Dressage Freestyle Walk & Trot	Grade 6 & 7
48	11:35	Dressage Freestyle Canter	Grade 6 & 7
ADVERT	11:53	Sponsors advert Oliver Wight EAME LLP	
60	11:53	Showjumping Unled	Level 2

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEKEND

**SUNDAY
EVENT TIMES**



CLASS	TIME	EVENT	SECTION
61	12:04	Showjumping	Level 3
29	12:09	Dressage Championship Grade 7 Walk Only	Junior & Senior
30	12:39	Dressage Championship Grade 7 Walk Only	Open
BREAK	12:50	LUNCH BREAK	
31	13:30	Dressage Championship Grade 7 Walk & Trot	Junior & Senior
32	14:00	Dressage Championship Grade 7 Walk & Trot	Open
33	14:15	Dressage Championship Grade 7 Canter	Junior & Senior
34	14:27	Dressage Championship Grade 7 Canter	Open
37	14:39	Dressage Led with Side Walker (Walk only) Championships	Junior & Senior
BREAK	12:58	TEA BREAK	
39	15:15	Dressage Led (Walk & Trot) Championships	Junior & Senior
40	15:51	Dressage Led (Walk & Trot) Championships	Open
35	15:55	Dressage Led (Walk only) Championships	Junior & Senior
36	16:25	Dressage Led (Walk only) Championships	Open
CLOSE	16:35	Anne Coney, Chairman of the National Championships	





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