



Welcome to our guide for recording a perfect virtual entry for the 2023 Virtual National Championships

It may seem daunting at first to think about recording a competition entry, both from a technology point of view and the pressure that filming or being filmed, can put on you.

You don't need fancy technology or recording equipment. A phone, iPad or tablet is sufficient. If you are recording on a phone or tablet, have you got enough storage? Pop it on aeroplane mode before you start recording so calls and messages don't cause interruption. ALWAYS use landscape mode and zoom in where needed. Lastly make sure you have charged the battery.

We've covered the different RDA disciplines below to give you a few handy tips and hopefully answer any questions that you may have regarding your filming. The first thing to think about is what you are wearing. The camera will pick up light colours easier, particularly if you are riding a dark coloured horse. A light coloured saddle cloth may also be worth thinking about. Remember to be aware of competition tack and dress rules for you and your equine. If you're unsure check in the 2023 RDA Rulebook which you can find on the National Championships page on Myrda.

Time of day is also a consideration. If the sun is rising or setting in front of the camera then you will become a silhouette, which may make it hard for the judge to score you.

Think about distractions around your arena, are horses being fetched in, is there someone who won't realise you are filming and will try to talk to you? It will help you concentrate if it is a quieter time of day.

Have a practise run with your helpers in their relevant positions to make sure they don't upset the horse, particularly if they need to move around the school to capture your video.

Watch your video through to make sure you have ridden the test or course correctly. It can quickly become addictive as a training tool but the main thing is not to watch your video too many times and become too self-critical.

You can lose marks or be eliminated by silly mistakes. Check your tack and dress is correct and make sure you introduce your participant at the start of the video.

Once you, your horse and your helpers are ready, it's time to start filming.



Dressage

1. The person videoing must be standing behind C, holding your recording device in the landscape position and zooming in at the A end of the school.
2. You need to be in a marked arena with correct 20mx40m measurements and visible arena letters. This can be on grass or in a school.
3. Ask your 'filmer' to try and keep you in the centre of the screen at all times. You must be able to see the rider and the horse's legs - if you disappear from view, the judge will not be able to score you for those movements.
4. The video must have sound. You may have a caller for the test if you need to. The caller should be positioned at E where possible.
5. Your video must have NO cuts or edits. It must start at least 5 seconds before the rider enters at A and preferably 5 seconds after the rider salutes at the end.
6. The person videoing your test MUST verbally introduce you, the horse, your RDA Group, the date AND what class you are entering at the beginning of the video.
7. Remember to enjoy yourself!!

Showjumping

1. The video must be recorded in landscape.
2. The person videoing ideally needs to stand in the corner of the arena to mimic the judges usual position. Make sure you aren't in a position that will either help or hinder the riders performance,
3. Ask your 'filmer' to keep you in the centre of the screen at all times - if you disappear from view, the judge will not be able to score you for that fence.
4. The video must have sound.
5. Your video must have NO cuts or edits. It must start at least 5 seconds before the rider jumps the first fence and 5 seconds after the last fence.
6. The person videoing your round MUST verbally introduce you, the horse, your RDA Group, the date AND what class you are entering at the beginning of the video.
7. Remember to enjoy yourself!!



Countryside Challenge

1. The video must be recorded in landscape.
2. The person videoing may need to be fluid in their movement around the arena to be able to capture each obstacle.
3. Ask your 'filmer' to try their hardest to keep you in the centre of the screen at all times - if you disappear from view, the judge will not be able to score you for that obstacle.
4. The video must have sound.
5. Your video must have NO cuts or edits. It must start at least 5 seconds before the rider reaches the first obstacle and 5 seconds after the last obstacle.
6. The person videoing your round MUST verbally introduce you, the horse, your RDA Group, the date AND what class you are entering at the beginning of the video.
7. Remember to enjoy yourself!!

Carriage Driving (Dressage)

1. The person videoing must be standing behind C, holding your recording device in the landscape position and zooming in at the A end of the school.
2. You need to be in a marked arena with correct arena measurements. 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. Arena letters must also be visible. This can be on grass or in a school.
3. Drivers in the Novice class may have verbal assistance from the Coach.
4. Drivers in the Intermediate class may not have any verbal assistance from the Coach.
5. Drivers in the Open class may not have any verbal assistance from the Coach.
6. Ask your 'filmer' to try and keep you in the centre of the screen at all times. You must be able to see the horse, carriage and driver - if you disappear from view, the judge will not be able to score you for those movements.
7. The video must have sound.
8. Your video must have NO cuts or edits. It must start at least 5 seconds before the driver enters at A and preferably 5 seconds after the driver salutes at the end.
9. The person videoing your test MUST verbally introduce you, the horse, your RDA Group, the date AND what class you are entering at the beginning of the video.
10. Remember to enjoy yourself!!



Vaulting

1. The routine should be filmed from outside the circle and in a stationary position, where the judge would ordinarily be located.
2. The run in and salute are not required for the horse or barrel classes.
3. Ask your 'filmer' to remain static and keep the horse and vaulter in the centre of the screen at all times - if you disappear from view, the judge will not be able to score you for those movements. Zoom in where needed.
4. The lunger does not need to be in shot.
5. For barrel classes stand to the left as you look at the front of the barrel on a diagonal of approx. 45 degrees
6. Show the whole mount including bunk ups
7. Show the whole dismount all the way to the floor
8. The video must have sound .Make sure music can be clearly heard in your video
9. Your video must have NO cuts or edits. It must start at least 5 seconds before the vaulter mounts the horse/barrel and preferably 5 seconds after the vaulter dismounts.
10. The person videoing your test MUST verbally introduce you, the horse, the lunger, your RDA Group, the date AND what class you are entering at the beginning of the video. Then, clearly state the name and number of each vaulter before they start their compulsories. Vaulters may wear identification numbers on their legs, if they wish.
11. Remember to enjoy yourself!!

Showing

1. The person videoing must hold your recording device in the landscape position and zoom in where necessary.
2. The rider and horse must stand square whilst the 'filmer' walks a slow circle around the horse.
3. You can then walk away and trot back in a straight line towards the 'filmer' and then continue with the set show as described in the 2021 RDA Rulebook
4. This can be on filmed on grass or in a school.
5. Ask your 'filmer' to try and keep you in the centre of the screen at all times. You must be able to see the rider and the horse's legs - if you disappear from view, the judge will not be able to score you for those movements.
6. The video must have sound.
7. Your video must have NO cuts or edits. It must start with horse and rider stood square and end preferably 5 seconds after the rider salutes at the end.
8. The person videoing your test MUST verbally introduce you, the horse, your RDA Group, the date AND what class you are entering at the beginning of the video.
9. Remember to enjoy yourself!!

Arts and Crafts

1. You may take up to four images of your artwork
2. Make sure images are clear and taken in good light

Now you have captured your chosen discipline on film, see our RDA guide for how to upload your video on to Horse Monkey.



Lots of Luck!!!!!!