



# **RDA VIRTUAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

## **SATURDAY 18<sup>th</sup> & SUNDAY 19<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2023**

### **SCHEDULE**



## **Welcome**

We are delighted to be able to continue with the Virtual National Championships which are to be held this year on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> November.

The Virtual National Championships will include many of the disciplines we see within the RDA. It's a great way for even more participants to take part as there is no travel involved.

Please find enclosed the schedule for the Virtual National Championships including which classes will be running and also discipline specific information.

As in previous years please note Competitors will not need to qualify for the Virtual National Championships. It will be direct entry.

If you are unsure of which classes, you should or can enter then please contact either Fiona Harris or Emma Bayliss at RDA National Office on 01926 405967.

Several resources and guides have been put together and will continue to be updated 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/>

As in previous years we will be using Horse Monkey to process the entries.

It will be direct entry this year with no need to qualify. Entries will open on the 1<sup>st</sup> May and will close on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023 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](https://horsemonkey.com/search_events)

Please make sure you have read through all the rules and regulations about which class you should have entered, you have ridden the correct test and you have the correct tack and dress on.

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 2023 consists only of the RDA National Championships 2023 BC Gateway Test Courtesy of British Carriage Driving. 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 should be either a 60m x 30m, 50m x 25m or and a 40m 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.

[RDA-National-Championships-2023-Dressage-Test-Diagram-of-Movements.pdf \(myrda.org.uk\)](#)

[RDA-National-Championships-2023-Dressage-Test-Version-2-15-02-23.pdf \(myrda.org.uk\)](#)

For full competition rules please see the RDA Rule Book.

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

- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### **Entry Fee**

- £12 for Virtual National Championships

## **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: [VIRTUAL-C.C.-INSTRUCTIONS-2023-update-240123.pdf \(myrda.org.uk\)](https://myrda.org.uk/VIRTUAL-C.C.-INSTRUCTIONS-2023-update-240123.pdf)

We are adding an additional class this year to the schedule. We will offering a leader and a side walker class.

For led classes, leaders must lead at the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage of leading.

Side walkers must not hold the rider on or touch the rider, unless an emergency situation arises.

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 2023.

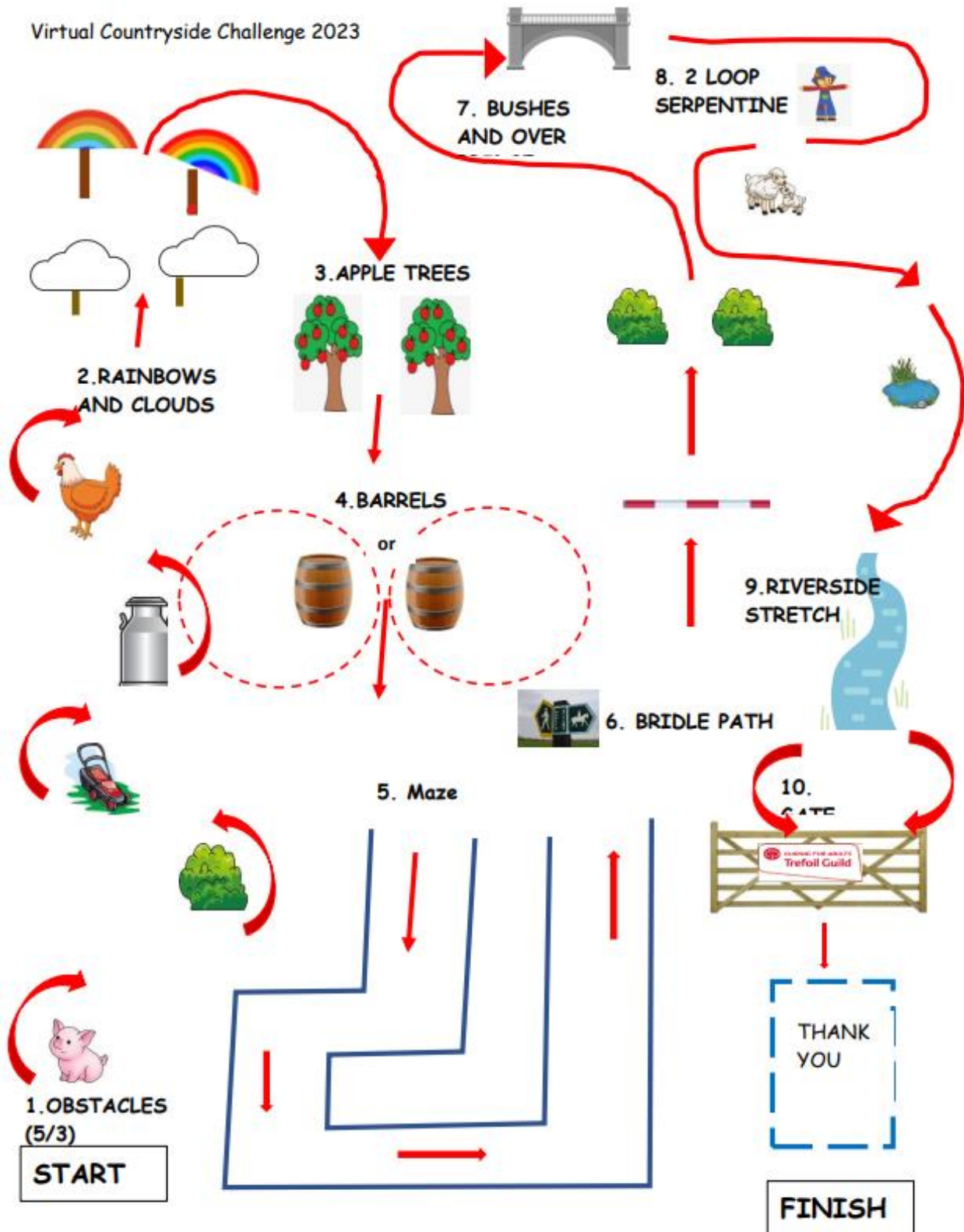
### **Closing Date for Virtual National Championships**

- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### **Entry Fee**

- £12

Virtual Countryside Challenge 2023



## **Dressage**

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

Classes are divided into 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 – The Open section isn't age specific and is for all participants who have either; been RDA Class champion for two years, compete in FEI, BD Para at silver level or above or are an independent rider.  
Competitors who ride within an Accessibility Mark Centre or who competed at the RDA National Championships 2023.

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

For full dressage rules please consult the RDA Rule Book.

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

- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### **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'.

### **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 if 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.

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**

- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Entry Fee**

- £6.00 per rider / driver



## **Showing**

We will be once again 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.

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

- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### **Entry Fee**

- £12.00

## Showjumping

RDA Level Showjumping		
RDA Showjumping	Level 1 Led & Unled	Poles on the ground
	Level 2 Led & Unled	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 2023.

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

### Closing Date for Virtual National Championships

- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### Entry Fee

- £12.00

## **Vaulting**

The competition will be run according to BEV rules for Pre Novice or Novice Level. Individuals, Pairs and Teams and will be scored accordingly. Please ensure you are familiar with all the rules governing competition in the BEV and FEI Rule Books. The full BEV and FEI rules can be found in the BEV rule book on line <http://britishvaulting.org/get-involved/rules/bev-rules/>.

Lungers must hold at least the RDA Lungeing Certificate, RDA Vaulting Coaching Certificate or BEV Level 1.

Please note that the 'Run in' and 'Run out' do not have to be performed as a run – it is perfectly acceptable to enter, leave and move around the arena in any way which is safe and appropriate for the vaulter(s), e.g. with a guide, crutches or a wheelchair.

### **Team Competition**

Teams are made up of 6 vaulters AND a barrel OR 6 vaulters AND one horse AND a lunger. The vaulting team may include up to 2 non-disabled vaulters who must be RDA volunteers, aged a minimum of 12 years. This will be run as an open competition with no age restrictions with two sections: Horse and Barrel. No compulsories are shown in the Team Competition.

#### Horse Team

1. Run in and bow to the judge. Bow to judge and run out at the end.
2. 4 minutes (maximum) Freestyle in walk.

#### Barrel Team

1. Run in and bow to the judge. Bow to judge and run out at the end.
2. 4 minutes (maximum) Freestyle.

### **Pairs Competition**

Pairs are made up of 2 vaulters AND a barrel OR 2 vaulters AND one horse AND a lunger. No non-disabled vaulters are permitted. This will be run as an open competition with no age restrictions with two sections: Horse and Barrel. No compulsories are shown in the Pairs Competition.

#### Horse Pairs

1. Run in and bow to the judge. Bow to judge and run out at the end.
2. 1.5 minutes (maximum) Freestyle in walk

### Barrel Pairs

1. Run in and bow to the judge. Bow to judge and run out at the end.
2. 1.5 minutes (maximum) Freestyle

### **Individual Competition**

An Individual entry consists of the vaulter AND a barrel, OR the vaulter AND a horse AND a lunger.

For specific requirements relating to each level of competition, please consult the RDA Rule Book. Changes have been made for 2023, which will be reviewed following the 2023 National Championships at Hartpury and the Virtual Championships. Please ensure you are familiar with the requirements and expectations at each level to ensure the maximum chance of success for your vaulters!

Individuals will be split into 3 sections:

- Junior – Vaulters may compete as Juniors until the end of the year in which they reach the age of 16.
- Senior – Over the age of 16 who are not an Open Competitor .
- Open – Anyone who has been Class Champion twice at the RDA National Championships for the level they are entering and/or anyone who has competed in two or more individual BEV events in the previous 12 months.

There will be two sections – Horse and Barrel – and each section will feature levels appropriate to the experience and ability of the vaulter.

### Horse and Barrel

1. Run in and bow to the judge. Bow to judge and run out at the end.
2. Depending on the level: compulsories
3. 1 minute (maximum) Freestyle

### Horse Levels

Level H1: Walk freestyle (no compulsories)

Level H2: BEV Pre-Novice trot compulsories AND walk freestyle

Level H3: BEV Pre-Novice canter compulsories AND walk freestyle

Level H4: BEV Novice canter compulsories AND canter freestyle

### Barrel Levels

Level B1: Freestyle (no compulsories)

Level B2: BEV Pre-Novice compulsories AND freestyle

Level B3: BEV Novice compulsories AND freestyle

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

Music must be emailed to Fiona Harris, Championships Secretary three weeks before the National Championships clearly marked with the classes, RDA Group and vaulters names.

For full Vaulting rules please see the RDA Rule Book.

### Closing Date

- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### Entry Fee

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

<b>Class</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Test</b>
1	Dressage - Championships	TVI (walk only) Junior / Senior	TVI/PVI Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
2	Dressage – Championships	TVI (walk only) Open	TVI/PVI Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
3	Dressage - Championships	PVI (walk only) Junior / Senior	TVI/PVI Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
4	Dressage – Championships	PVI (walk only) Open	TVI/PVI Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
5	Dressage - Championships	TVI (walk & trot) Junior / Senior	TVI/PVI Championships Test Walk & Trot (2022)
6	Dressage – Championships	TVI (walk & trot) Open	TVI/PVI Championships Test Walk & Trot (2022)
7	Dressage - Championships	PVI (walk & trot) Junior / Senior	TVI/PVI Championships Test Walk & Trot (2022)
8	Dressage – Championships	PVI (walk & trot) Open	TVI/PVI Championships Test Walk & Trot (2022)
9	Dressage - Championships	TVI (canter) Junior / Senior	TVI/PVI Championship Test Canter (2022)
10	Dressage – Championships	TVI (canter) Open	TVI/PVI Championship Test Canter (2022)
11	Dressage - Championships	PVI (canter) Junior / Senior	TVI/PVI Championship Test Canter (2022)
12	Dressage – Championships	PVI (canter) Open	TVI/PVI Championship Test Canter (2022)
13	Dressage – Championships	Grade 1 Junior / Senior	Grade 1 Championship Test (2022)
14	Dressage – Championships	Grade 1 Open	Grade 1 Championship Test (2022)
15	Dressage – Championships	Grade 2 Junior / Senior	Grade 2 Championship Test (2022)
16	Dressage – Championships	Grade 2 Open	Grade 2 Championship Test (2022)
17	Dressage – Championships	Grade 3 Junior / Senior	Grade 3 Championship Test (2022)
18	Dressage – Championships	Grade 3 Open	Grade 3 Championship Test (2022)
19	Dressage - Championships	Grade 4 Junior / Senior	Grade 4 Championship Test (2022)
20	Dressage – Championships	Grade 4 Open	Grade 4 Championship Test (2022)
21	Dressage - Championships	Grade 5 Junior / Senior	Grade 5 Championship Test (2022)
22	Dressage – Championships	Grade 5 Open	Grade 5 Championship Test (2022)
23	Dressage – Championships	Grade 6 (walk only) Junior / Senior	Grade 6 Walk Only Championship Test (2022)
24	Dressage – Championships	Grade 6 (walk only) Open	Grade 6 Walk Only Championship Test (2022)
25	Dressage - Championships	Grade 6 (walk & trot) Junior / Senior	Grade 6 Walk & Trot Championship Test (2022)

26	Dressage – Championships	Grade 6 (walk & tot) Open	Grade 6 Walk & Trot Championship Test (2022)
27	Dressage - Championships	Grade 6 (canter) Junior / Senior	Grade 6 Canter Championship Test (2022)
28	Dressage – Championships	Grade 6 (canter) Open	Grade 6 Canter Championship Test (2022)
29	Dressage – Championships	Grade 7 (walk only) Junior / Senior	Grade 7 Walk Only Championship Test (2022)
30	Dressage – Championships	Grade 7 (walk only) Open	Grade 7 Walk Only Championship Test (2022)
31	Dressage – Championships	Grade 7 (walk & trot) Junior / Senior	Grade 7 Walk & Trot Championship Test (2022)
32	Dressage – Championships	Grade 7 (walk & trot) Open	Grade 7 Walk & Trot Championship Test (2022)
33	Dressage - Championships	Grade 7 (canter) Junior / Senior	Grade 7 Canter Championship Test (2022)
34	Dressage – Championships	Grade 7 (canter) Open	Grade 7 Canter Championship Test (2022)
35	Dressage – Championships	Led (walk only) Junior / Senior	Introduction to Dressage Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
36	Dressage – Championships	Led (walk only) Open	Introduction to Dressage Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
37	Dressage – Championships	Led with side walker (walk only) Junior / Senior	Introduction to Dressage Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
38	Dressage – Championships	Led with side walker (walk only) Open	Introduction to Dressage Championship Test Walk Only (2022)
39	Dressage – Championships	Led (walk & trot) Junior / Senior	Introduction to Dressage Championship Test Walk & Trot (2022)
40	Dressage – Championships	Led (walk & trot) Open	Introduction to Dressage Championship Test Walk & Trot (2022)
41	Dressage - Freestyle	TVI & PVI (walk only) Grade 1	Grade 1 Freestyle to Music (2023)
42	Dressage - Freestyle	TVI & PVI (walk & trot) Grade 2	Grade 2 Freestyle to Music (2023)
43	Dressage – Freestyle	Grade 3	Grade 3 Freestyle to Music (2023)
44	Dressage - Freestyle	TVI & PVI (canter) Grade 4	Grade 4 Freestyle to Music (2023)
45	Dressage - Freestyle	5	Grade 5 Freestyle to Music (2023)
46	Dressage – Freestyle	Grade 6 (walk only) & Grade 7 (walk only)	Grade 6 Walk Only Freestyle to Music (2023)
47	Dressage - Freestyle	Grade 6 (walk & trot) & Grade 7 (walk & trot)	Grade 6 Walk & Trot Freestyle to Music (2023)
48	Dressage - Freestyle	Grade 6 (canter) & Grade 7 (canter)	Grade 6 Canter Freestyle to Music (2023)
49	Countryside Challenge	Junior / Senior / Open	Led with two side walkers
50	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior / Open	Led with 1 side walker
51	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior / Open	Led or 1 side walker
52	Countryside Challenge	Junior/ Senior / Open	Independent

53	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior / Open	Visually Impaired Led with two side walkers
54	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior/ Open	Visually Impaired Led with 1 side walker
55	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior / Open	Visually Impaired led or 1 side walker
56	Countryside Challenge	Junior/Senior / Open	Visually Impaired Independent
57	RDA Showjumping	Level 1 Led	Poles on the ground
58	RDA Showjumping	Level 1 Unled	Poles on the ground
59	RDA Showjumping	Level 2 Led	30cm
60	RDA Showjumping	Level 2 Unled	30cm
61	RDA Showjumping	Level 3	60cm
62	RDA Showjumping	Level 4	70cm
63	Carriage Driving	Novice	RDA National Championships 2023 BC Gateway Test Courtesy of British Carriage Driving.
64	Carriage Driving	Intermediate	RDA National Championships 2023 BC Gateway Test Courtesy of British Carriage Driving.
65	Carriage Driving	Open	RDA National Championships 2023 BC Gateway Test Courtesy of British Carriage Driving.
66	Showing	Led	Walk & Trot
67	Showing	Unled	Walk & Trot
68	Showing	Unled	Walk, Trot & Canter
69	Vaulting – Individual	Junior / Senior / Open	Level H1 Walk Freestyle Only
70	Vaulting – Individual	Junior / Senior / Open	Level H2 Pre-Novice Trot Compulsories/Walk Freestyle
71	Vaulting – Individual	Junior / Senior / Open	Level H3 Pre-Novice Canter Compulsories/Walk Freestyle
72	Vaulting – Individual	Junior / Senior / Open	Level H4 Novice Canter Compulsories/Canter Freestyle
73	Vaulting – Individual	Junior / Senior / Open	Level B1 Barrel Freestyle Only
74	Vaulting – Individual	Junior / Senior / Open	Level B2



			Pre-Novice Compulsories/Barrel Freestyle
75	Vaulting – Individual	Junior / Senior / Open	Level B3 Novice Compulsories/Barrel Freestyle
76	Vaulting – Pairs	All Ages	Walk Freestyle Only
77	Vaulting – Pairs	All Ages	Barrel Freestyle Only
78	Vaulting – Team	All Ages	Walk Freestyle
79	Vaulting –Team	All Ages	Barrel Freestyle
80	Musical Drill Ride	Led	With or without side walker(s)
81	Musical Drill Ride	Unled	Independent
82	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 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.
- 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 product's 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.
- All tack rules apply, any exceptions to this will be eliminated. Please familiarise yourself with the competition's rulebook.
- 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.
- Classes 1- 22 are for those riders that have been classified. For any rider that hasn't been classified they need to enter either the Grade 6 classes or Grade 7 classes. Please note the grade 6 classes are for those with a physical disability and grade 7 is for those riders who have a learning disability.
- For graded Dressage classes please ensure proof of classification is attached to your entry when entering.