



INFORMATION FOR SMRC DRESSAGE COMPETITIONS

Dressage is fun and here are some helpful tips, do's and don'ts to help competitors have a great experience if they are new to dressage.

In Hand Dressage Class

- 1 Pony/Horse should wear a suitable bridle and led with a lead rein/rope or reins which should be split at the centre buckle for safety.
- 2 Colts and Stallions must be handled by an experienced adult.
- 3 Handlers may wear smart relaxed wear. However it is compulsory to wear a regulation hard hat, gloves and suitable footwear.
- 4 A cane or whip may be carried. Juniors may carry a dressage whip no longer than 100 cms.

Lead Rein Dressage Classes

- 1 Tests must be ridden in a snaffle bridle.
- 2 The Lead Rein/Rope should be attached to the noseband, if a flash is worn attach it to the cavasson. The rider needs to be able to steer the pony independently.
- 3 Martingales are not allowed, however a neck strap can be worn.
- 4 Spurs are not allowed.
- 5 A cane or whip may be carried. Juniors may carry a dressage whip no longer than 100 cms.
- 6 The rider may wear Smart Relaxed Riding wear if they do not have Showing/ Dressage attire. Regulation hard hats, gloves and riding boots are obligatory.
- 7 The handler may Smart Relaxed Riding wear if they do not have showing attire.
- 8 The handler should make sure the pony is lead correctly. The handler should be positioned at the pony's shoulder and there should be a reasonable length to the lead rein.
- 9 Hold the lead rein with the outside hand so that the inner hand may be used in an emergency situation to help the rider.



- 10 A test caller is available in addition to the handler if you cannot remember your test.

General Information

- 1 Dress Code - SMRC competitors may compete in Smart Relaxed Riding wear if they do not have Showing/Dressage attire. Regulation hard hats, gloves and riding boots are obligatory.
- 2 Dressage whips are allowed. A Junior's whip must be no longer than 100 cms.
- 3 Martingales are not allowed, however a neck strap can be worn.
- 4 Don't be scared of the Judge! The Judge wants you and your pony to do your very best and give you good marks.
- 5 Ride to the Letters, you will get better marks for accuracy.
- 6 Try and practice the shape of your circles as this will help you get better marks for accuracy.
- 7 Smile at the Judge!
- 8 At the end of the Test remember to salute, with the reins and whip in one hand and salute with your free hand.
- 9 A test caller is available if you cannot remember your test.

MOST IMPORTANTLY HAVE FUN