

# **The Irish Pony Club**



## **PURE DRESSAGE & COMBINED TRAINING RULES**

**Updated for 2026**

**NB** In circumstances not covered by the IPC Pure Dressage and Combined Training Rules, the appropriate current Dressage Ireland or Show Jumping Ireland Rules will apply.

The Pony Club stands for the best in sportsmanship as well as in horsemanship.

Members should compete for the enjoyment of the game – well played - and take winning or losing in equal strides, remembering that without good manners sport loses its meaning.

As a member of the Irish Pony Club, I stand for the best in sportsmanship as well as horsemanship.

I shall compete for the enjoyment of the game well played and take winning and losing in my stride, remembering that without good manners and good temper, sport loses its cause for being.  
I shall at all times treat my horse with due consideration.

### **IPC Anti-Doping Rules**

The Irish Pony Club Anti-Doping rules are the Irish Anti-Doping Rules as adopted by the Irish Sports Council, as amended from time to time. The rules contained in the said Irish Anti-Doping Rules shall have effect and be construed as rules of The Irish Pony Club.

For more information click on this link:

<http://www.irishsportsCouncil.ie/Anti-Doping/>

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## Section 1. Introduction

Combined Training is a test of the horse and rider's ability to perform a simple dressage test followed by a straightforward show jumping round, both of which test the horse's obedience, suppleness and calmness.

The competitions covered by these rules and organised in the IPC Areas throughout the summer should be within the capability of most members who have attained the C Test standard. Members should be encouraged to take part as it provides the general experience necessary for the preparation and horsemanship required in most P.C. activities.

## Section 2. Dress and Saddlery

Please refer to current Tack Sheet for the Discipline. Dressage Tack sheet for the Dressage Test and the Show Jumping Tack Sheet for the Jumping Phase of the Combined Training competition.

Electronic devices (ie headphones, mobile phones etc enabling another person to communicate with the rider) are not allowed in competition. No recording device is permitted (eg head/bridle cameras etc).

## Section 3. General Information for Competitors

**Competitors must be *bona fide* members of the stated Branch of the IPC and have regularly attended rallies.**

## Section 4. Exercise Areas

1. Competitors must exercise their horses in the provided areas. **On the day of competition, horses may only be ridden by their competitors** or in exceptional circumstances by another member of the same Branch, only with the permission of the Chief Steward.
2. Persons other than the competitor may lunge a horse with the permission of the Chief Steward and landowner. Competitors observed using harness and/or gadgets in warm-up, which are not allowed in competitions, will be eliminated. Lunging in side reins, but NOT bearing, check or balancing reins, is allowed when exercising or warming up, as is the wearing of boots and/or bandages.
3. For illustrations of permitted snaffle bits for Dressage, see Dressage section of the IPC Tack Sheet.

4. It is the RESPONSIBILITY of competitors that their dress and saddlery are in accordance with the current rules. Non-compliance will incur elimination. However, lack of gloves will incur a penalty of 2 points only. Boots on the pony or horse will also incur a penalty of 2 points only.
5. Rapping is strictly prohibited and penalised by elimination.

### **Section 5. Notes for Competitors**

Competitors will assist stewards in the efficient running of the event by:

- a. Presenting themselves to the Tack Steward before they are called into the Arena.
- b. Reporting their presence to the Class Steward while riding in, if possible, 20 minutes before their start time and being on hand to receive the signal to approach the Arena.
- c. By riding close to the Arena as soon as the previous competitor has made his exit.
- d. By ensuring that their dress and tack conform to the current rules.
- e. By taking care not to distract other competitors.
- f. Successful competitors are expected to be correctly dressed in their competition riding clothes for the presentation of awards, which may be dismounted at Area Competitions but will be mounted at the Championships.

## **Section 6. The Dressage Test**

### **6.1 The Dressage Test**

The test for all competitions, which can be obtained from IPC Shop, IPC Website, Headquarters or DCs, will be ridden from memory and with both hands except when saluting or otherwise directed.

### **6.2 Leaving the Arena**

1. All riders must leave Arena at “A” after performing test.
2. Where the perimeter of the Arena is wholly boarded, no marks may be given for a movement when the horse has placed all four feet outside the Arena. Where the Arena is partly boarded, or marked by a line, it is left to the discretion of the judge as to the marks deducted.
3. Any horse leaving the Arena, not under control, is eliminated, and for this purpose the Test begins when the horse enters the Arena at A and finishes when it leaves the Arena at A after completing the test.

### **6.3 The Salute**

Competitors must take the reins, and whip if carried, in their left hand when saluting, drop their right hand down by their side and bow with their head only.

### **6.4 Dismounting / Fall**

If after entering the Arena, the rider dismounts for any reason, no marks will be given for that movement. A dropped whip may not be picked up. In the case of a fall of horse and/or rider, the competitor will be eliminated.

In the case of a fall where a head injury is suspected, or other injury likely to cause concussion the following applies:

#### **6.4.1 Concussion**

Concussion incurs a mandatory 21-day suspension from all Irish Pony Club activities which involve riding. For further information on Irish Pony Club rules regarding concussion go to [www.irishponyclub.ie](http://www.irishponyclub.ie)

### **6.5 Resistance**

1. Any horse failing to enter the Arena within 45 seconds of the signal to start shall be eliminated.
2. Any horse refusing to continue the Test for a period of 20 consecutive seconds during the course of the Test shall be eliminated.
3. Grinding of teeth is considered a resistance, as is the tongue over the bit or out to the side, also repeated swishing of the tail. Penalties for these faults

may be deducted from the movements concerned and from the marks for general impression at the end of the test.

### **6.6 Voice**

The use of voice, as audible to the dressage judges is prohibited and will be penalised by the loss of 2 marks from those that would have been awarded for the movement in which this occurred

### **6.7 Error of Test and Penalties incurred; Commanding of test**

A rider is considered to have made an error when he/she departs from the direction or place laid down in the text of the Test. He cannot be penalised for test errors unless the judge rings the bell. The Test must then be restarted from the spot where the error occurred.

A rider who starts the wrong test will be allowed to restart at the judge's discretion if they can do so immediately; they must not leave the arena. They will be penalised as a first error of course.

Riders are encouraged to learn their tests but may have the test commanded with the prior agreement of the Chief Steward and dressage judge. Only the printed text or extracts from it should be read out and no other form of assistance should be given. Failure to observe this rule may entail elimination. Repetition of any part of the text may incur an error of course if used to redirect a competitor in process of making such an error. Where two arenas are side by side, the commander should position themselves at the side furthest away from the adjoining arena.

Errors of course are penalised as follows (except when the test sheet specifies otherwise):

First error 2 points

Second error 4 points

Third error 8 points

Fourth error Elimination

Sustained Resistance during the test (> 20 sec) Elimination

Failure to enter the arena within 45 secs of judge's signal 2 points; if 90 secs or above Elimination

Entering the arena before the judge's signal 2 points\*

Fall of rider Elimination

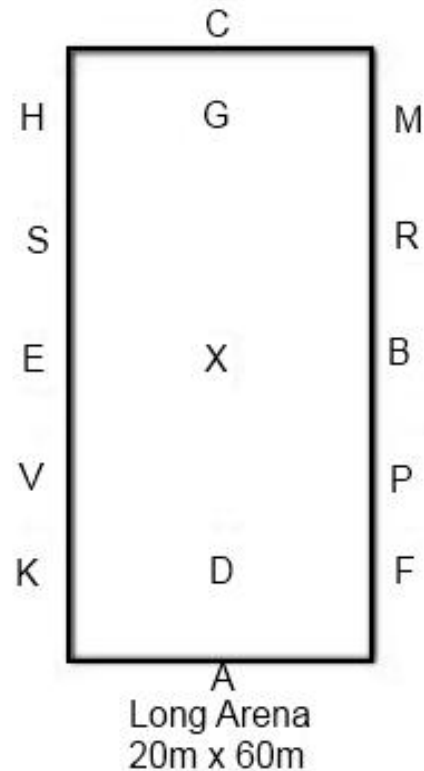
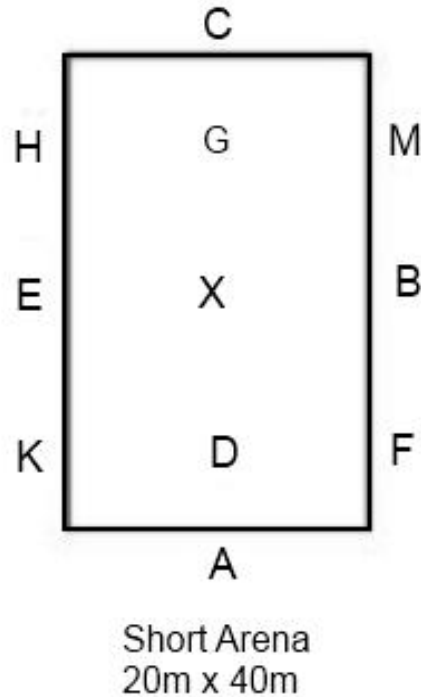
Fall of horse Elimination

\* By way of exception, where a class is held on an artificial surface or the construction of the arena makes it impossible for the competitor to ride round the outside before the judges signal to enter is sounded, they may, on the instruction of the organiser and/or judge, ride inside the arena and start the test from inside the arena.



## 6.8 Arena

**Arenas** 40m x 20m and 60m x 20m on flat ground, in a quiet area, with gap at A for Horse to enter, space behind C for judge's car, not facing into the sun (south), separated from the public by at least 10m. Clear letters with safe surrounds and mown centre line. Tufts of grass, thistles, etc. should be 'topped'. An area for 'riding in' must be provided. If necessary, the area should be roped in order to avoid disturbance or distractions. The letters outside the arena should be positioned about 0.5m away from the arena surrounds.



*In the 20m x 40m the length of the diagonal from corner to corner is 44.72m.*

*In the 20m x 60m arena the length of the diagonal from corner to corner is 63.27m*

*Distance between K,H,M and F and the nearest end of the arena is 6.0m in both Long and Short Arenas*

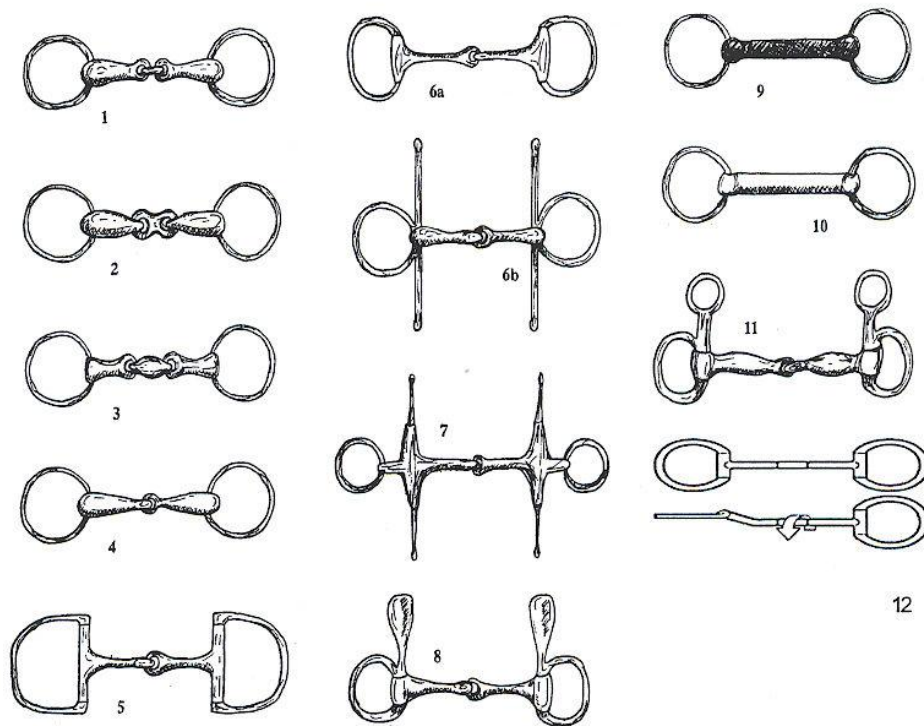
*Short Arena distances between H and E, E and K, M and B, B and F are 14m*

*Long Arena distances between K and V, V and E, E and S, S and H, M and R, R and B, B and P, P and F are 12m*

## 6.9 Permitted Bits for Dressage

Captions showing bits permitted:

1. Ordinary snaffle with double-jointed mouthpiece
2. Ordinary snaffle with double-jointed mouthpiece (French Link)
3. Ordinary snaffle with jointed mouthpiece with Lozenge
4. Ordinary snaffle with jointed mouthpiece
5. Racing snaffle (D ring)
6. Egg-butt snaffle:
  - a) without cheeks
  - b) with cheeks
7. Other type of snaffle with cheeks
8. Snaffle with upper cheeks only
9. Rubber, leather or plastic snaffle jointed or unjointed
10. Unjointed snaffle
11. Hanging cheek snaffle
12. Rotating mouth piece



## **Section 7. Pure Dressage Competition**

This is a Team and individual Competition run concurrently with each competitor riding only one test. At the Championships, final Individual placings are determined in the ride off (see section 7.1.1 below).

### ***7.1 Team Competition - The Bill Fisk Memorial Trophy***

Teams of four riders, the three best scores are totalled, the lowest one being discarded, to decide the winning team.

In the event of a tie, in the team competition, the collective marks (paces, impulsion, submission and rider position) of the 3 team members with the best results shall be added together to decide the highest placed team. If the collective marks are equal the result shall be declared a tie.

The Team competition is open to teams of three or four riders, under 21 years on 1<sup>st</sup> January, from the same Branch.

Individual Pure Dressage Competition is open to members under 23 years on 1<sup>st</sup> January. Special rosettes, to 10<sup>th</sup> place at the Championships, will be awarded in this category as determined in the ride off.

### ***7.1.1 Ride off for Individual Pure Dressage Championships***

Top five placed competitors from each arena to include one pony (rider under 23 years on 1st January) and one junior on a horse greater than 148cm from each arena.

In the event of a tie in an arena, the collective marks are used to decide who should qualify for the ride off, once the pony and junior riders have been selected.

### ***7.1.2 Horse (Over 148cms) Dressage Trophy - Ronan Cup***

Presented to the rider of the horse over 148cms, obtaining the highest placing. Open to all competitors in the team competition plus any individuals under 21 years.

### ***7.1.3 Pony (Under 148cms) Dressage Trophy - Cossack Cup***

Presented to the rider of the pony not exceeding 148cms, obtaining the highest placing. Open to all competitors in the team competition plus any individuals.

### ***7.1.4 Junior Dressage Trophy – Rincoola Trophy***

Presented to the rider less than 15 (on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan) on a horse greater than 148cm.

### **7.2 Area Qualifier Pure Dressage Competitions**

Each Branch may enter two teams of 3 or 4 riders - or one team and up to two individuals. Should any Branch be unable to field a team, the spare places will be offered to other Branches on a draw basis up to a total of 40 in a class. With this in mind each Branch should put forward up to 8 names in order of preference. The members of the team **must** be declared before the competition begins. **NB** Members can only compete separately as Individuals if there is no place for them on a Team. However, at the Area Qualifier, all competitors are automatically included in the Individual competition for placings 1<sup>st</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>; they are not required to make a second entry.

Horse and rider may enter only once on a Team or as an Individual i.e. a horse may not be ridden by two riders, nor may a rider enter on two or more horses. However, in a small Area with a small entry, a rider may compete H/C on a second horse at the discretion of the Organising Branch but must declare the team horse at the time of entering the competition and compete first on this horse. To compete without this declaration will eliminate both entries.

### **7.3 Qualification for IPC Championships**

The two highest placed teams with 3 of their members having obtained a minimum total of 50% of the marks, from each Area will go forward to the Championships. If the overall winner or 2<sup>nd</sup> placed combination at an Area Qualifier is not on a team, they qualify for the Championship but not otherwise ie Individuals only qualify for the Championships if their score is higher than those on Teams.

**Combinations MUST have competed at the Area Qualifier in order to compete at the Championships.**

### **7.4 Eligibility of Horses**

All horses or ponies competing at championship qualifiers must be 5 years of age or older. There is no height restriction on horses/ponies.

Horses registered Advanced Medium level or above, or with more than 550 points either currently with Dressage Ireland, or in the previous two years with Dressage Ireland, are not eligible.

**The winning Branch team or individuals may go to the U.K. Championships if an invitation is extended and IPC approval is given. This is conditional on the invitees signing and agreeing to abide by the standard "Code of Practice Document" prescribed for such events.**

### **7.5 Eligibility of Riders**

All riders entered must be active members of the stated Branch of the Irish Pony Club who have participated in a minimum of 3 working rallies since the 1<sup>st</sup> of July of the previous year, excluding team practices and coaching. The District Commissioner has discretion in the case of those who are working.

## Section 8. Combined Training

### 8.1 General Rules

An Individual Competition, which consists of a Dressage Test and one round of Show Jumping, which should take place in that order. However, in Junior, Under 12 and Under 10 competitions the jumping may take place before the dressage provided at least one hour is allowed between the two. Competitors must complete both Tests on the same horse. Elimination from one test involves elimination from the whole competition. A time limit of one hour may be introduced between completing the dressage test and presenting for the SJ phase, to be enforced at the discretion of the Chief Steward.

Horse and rider may enter only once as an Individual i.e. a horse may not be ridden by two riders. If the same horse/pony is ridden by siblings, only one of the two combinations may go forward to the Championships. Nor may a rider enter on two or more horses. At the Area Qualifier a rider may compete H/C on a second horse at the discretion of the Organising Branch but must declare the qualifying horse at the time of entering the competition and compete first on this horse in both dressage and SJ. To compete without this declaration will eliminate both entries.

**Members must qualify in their own Area. If the same combination of horse/pony and rider compete in Open Section of Eventing they must compete in Open Combined Training; in general, combinations can compete at the same level or a higher level in Combined Training than the level they compete at in Eventing but not *vice versa*.**

**Horse/pony and rider combinations which compete at Intermediate level Show Jumping may compete in Junior Combined Training if the rider is aged under 15 years on January 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year.**

### 8.2 Scoring NB different from previous Rules

Dressage: the judge's good marks shall be added together, and any penalties awarded shall be deducted. Multiply the result by 100 and divide it by the maximum mark obtainable. The result is the percentage score for the dressage test. SJ: The penalties incurred for the jumping test are deducted from the percentage score awarded for the dressage test. The competitor with the highest score is the winner; their final marks having deducted any jumping penalties must still be a minimum of 50% of the possible maximum score in order to qualify.

Ties: If two or more competitors complete both phases with the same total score; the competitor with the highest Dressage score wins. In the event of a tied dressage score the collective marks (eg paces, impulsion, submission and rider position) shall be totalled to decide the highest placed individual competitor. If the collective marks are equal, the competitor with the highest marks for individual dressage movements wins: ie the competitor with the highest number of scores of 10 wins; if neither competitor scored any tens, then the competitor with the highest number of scores of 9 wins; if neither competitor scored any nines then the competitor with the highest number of scores of 8 wins, and so on.

### **8.3 Competitions**

#### ***8.3.1 Senior Associate Individual Competition***

Riders must be 21 yrs and under 23 yrs on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of the current year, have passed C Test and be C+ standard of riding.. S.J. obstacles will not exceed 1.10 m (3'6") max height; 1.20 m (4') in spread at highest point, 1.80 m (6') at base. Speed 350m/min. Dressage test: see current IPC Guide to Competitions.

#### ***8.3.2 Open - IPC Open Cup***

Riders must be under 21 yrs on the 1<sup>st</sup> January of the current year, have passed C Test and be C+ standard of riding. S.J. obstacles: 1.10 m max height; 1.10 m in spread at highest point, 1.80 m at base. Speed 350m/min. Dressage test: see current IPC Guide to Competitions.

The Rourkes Cross Cup will be presented to the highest scoring 18 to 21 year old within the Open Combined Training Competition.

#### ***8.3.3 Intermediates - Cahill Trophy***

Riders must be under 21 yrs on the 1<sup>st</sup> January of the current year, have passed C Test and be C+ standard of riding. The winning combination of this competition at the Championships from a previous year is not eligible to compete. S.J. obstacles: 1.00 m max height; 1.00 m in spread at highest point, 1.40 m at base. Speed 325m/min. Dressage test: see current IPC Guide to Competitions.

#### ***8.3.4 Intro Intermediates***

Riders must be under 21yrs on the 1<sup>st</sup> January of the current year, have passed C Test and be C+ standard of riding. The winning combination of this competition at the Championships from a previous year is not eligible to compete. S.J. obstacles: 90cm max height; 90cm in spread at highest point, 1.20 m at base. No time allowance applies. Dressage test: see current IPC Guide to Competitions. Horse/pony and rider combinations that have jumped more than 90cm in a National competition before the Area qualifier or Festival are not eligible.

### ***8.3.5 Juniors - Redhills Engraving Trophy***

Riders must be under 15 yrs on the 1<sup>st</sup> January of the current year, have passed C Test and be C+ standard of riding. The winning combination of this competition at the Championships from a previous year is not eligible to compete. A combination will not normally be permitted to revert to Junior in CT having competed at Intermediate level. Dressage test: see current IPC Guide to Competitions. S.J. obstacles: 90 cm max height; 90 cm in spread at highest point, 1.20 m at base. No time allowance applies.

### ***8.3.6 Novice Combined Training***

Competitors must have D+ test and must be 12 yrs and under 23 yrs on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan in the current year. Fences up to 80cm. Dressage test: see current IPC Guide to Competitions. Horse/pony and rider combinations that have jumped more than 80cm in a National competition before the Area qualifier are not eligible, but they may jump up to 90cm between the Area qualifier and the Championships. A combination will not be permitted to revert to Novice in CT after the Championships having jumped more than 80cm. The winning combination of this competition at the Championships from a previous year is not eligible to compete.

### ***8.3.7 Under 12 Combined Training***

Competitors must be 10 or 11 years old but less than 12 years old on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan in the current year. D+ test standard is required. Fences up to 75cm. Dressage test: see current IPC Guide to Competitions. The winning combination of this competition at the Championships from a previous year is not eligible to compete

### ***8.3.8 Under 10 Combined Training***

Competitors must be 8 or 9 years old but not yet 10 years old on 1<sup>st</sup> Jan in the current year. D+ test standard is required. Fences up to 65cm. Dressage test: see current IPC Guide to Competitions. The winning combination of this competition at the Championships from a previous year is not eligible to compete

**\*Note: Competitors may compete in only one competition. Competitors may choose between Open or Intermediate or Novice, or Junior or Novice, taking note of the difference in age of rider, S.J. course specifications and dressage tests applicable.**

**Horse/pony rider combinations MUST have competed at the Area Qualifier in order to compete at the Championships.**

## **8.4 Area Qualifier Competitions**

Each Branch may enter 5 competitors in each section. DCs should list up to 7 members in order of preference so that unfilled places may be made up on a draw basis up to a total of 40 in a class.

### ***8.4.1 Qualification for Championships***

The four highest placed competitors from each Area Qualifying Competition at Open, Intermediate, Junior, U12, U10 and Novice will go forward to the Championships provided that they have attained at least 50% of the possible maximum score.

### ***8.4.2 Eligibility of Horses and horse/pony and rider combinations***

All horses or ponies competing at any level must be 5 years of age or older. Horses that are currently registered with Eventing Ireland and have more than 61 points or were in this category in the current or previous year are not eligible. Horses/ponies registered Medium level or above or with more than 450 points either currently with Dressage Ireland, or in the previous year with Dressage Ireland, are not eligible.

Horse/pony and rider combinations currently or in the previous year jumping at 1.05m or under with the SJI or equivalent competition are eligible to compete in Junior but not U10 or U12 Combined Training for which the max height with SJI or equivalent competition is 1.00m; this is provided they have not represented Ireland with the SJI abroad.

Horse/pony and rider combinations currently or in the previous year jumping at 80cm or under with the SJI or equivalent competition are eligible to compete in Novice Combined Training.

A horse/pony and rider combination currently or in the previous year jumping at 1.15m or under with the SJI or equivalent competition is eligible to compete at Intermediate level in Combined Training provided they have not represented Ireland with the SJI abroad.

Horse/pony and rider combinations currently or in the previous year jumping at 1.20m or under with the SJI or equivalent competition are eligible to compete at Open (Members)/Senior Associate level in Combined Training.

Horse/pony and rider combinations which have competed and completed the course at Eventing Ireland 1.05m or above, or equivalent outside Ireland, are ineligible at Pony Club Intermediate, Junior, U12, U10 & Novice level. Combinations which have represented Ireland at European Eventing Championships are ineligible to compete in IPC Combined Training at any level.

Horse/pony and rider combinations who have competed and completed the course at Area Qualifiers in the current or previous year in Robbie Bailey are not eligible for the U10 or U12 or Novice CT. Horse/pony combinations who have competed in Area Qualifiers in the current or previous year in Intermediate



Show Jumping or Junior or Intermediate Combined Training, or who have done Junior or Intermediate Eventing, are not eligible for the U10 or U12 or Novice CT.

#### ***8.4.3 Commanding of dressage tests***

Riders are encouraged to learn their tests but may have the test commanded with the prior agreement of the Chief Steward and dressage judge. Only the printed text or extracts from it should be read out and no other form of assistance should be given. Failure to observe this rule may entail elimination. Repetition of any part of the text may incur an error of course if used to redirect a competitor in process of making such an error. Where two arenas are side by side, the commander should position themselves at the side furthest away from the adjoining arena.

#### ***8.4.4 Outside assistance***

Any outside assistance by voice, signs, etc., designed to help a competitor improve their performance, will entail elimination. This rule applies once the judge has rung the bell and applies whether the rider is inside or outside the competition arena. Headsets/earpieces or other electronic devices are strictly prohibited while competing unless dispensation has been granted.

#### ***8.4.5 Eligibility of riders***

All riders entered must be active members of the stated Branch of the Irish Pony Club who have participated in a minimum of 3 working rallies since the 1<sup>st</sup> of June of the previous year, excluding team practices and coaching. The District Commissioner has discretion in the case of those who have difficulty attending rallies due to work commitments (their own or their transport providers).

### **Section 9. Dressage for Beginners**

**Dressage for Beginners** competitions are run at Area Level only. There are no restrictions on the age of competitor or on the pony. The aim is to try and encourage competitors. Riders must not have competed in the Pure Dressage or Combined Training competitions at any level, in the current or previous years. The winning combination from last year may not enter this year's competition. A pony may be ridden more than once with different riders.

### **Section 10. Virtual competitions**

**Virtual competitions** must be conducted according to IPC safety, tack and turnout, safeguarding and data protection rules.

There will be no in-person prizegiving.

## **Section 11. General Rules for Jumping**

This test consists of one round only, to be judged under SJI rules, with modifications. There is no jump off.

	Penalties:
Knocking down a fence	4 penalties
Touching boundary marker of water etc	4 penalties
First disobedience in whole test	4 penalties
Second disobedience in whole test	8 penalties
Third disobedience in whole test	Elimination
Fall of rider	Elimination
Fall of horse	Elimination
Every commenced period of 4 seconds in excess of Time Allowed	1 penalty
Error of course not rectified or other reasons see SJI rules	Elimination

### **11.1 Area Competitions**

As per Robbie Bailey Area Competitions except that for the course:

A double – distance 7.2 metres only

A water jump will not exceed 1.5 metres in width.

Water jumps are allowed in Intermediate and Open competitions.

### **Speed/Time**

Open 350 mpm

Intermediate 325 mpm

Junior, Novice, U12 & U10 no time recorded.

Time is not a factor unless Time Allowed is exceeded. Time Limit is twice the Time allowed, if exceeded competitor is eliminated. NB Time Allowed/Time Limit will vary according to the venue.

**Course:** Course should be open for inspection 1 hour before start of that phase and course plan clearly displayed. Competitors should run in numerical order.

## **Section 12. Administrative Rules**

### **12.1 Disqualifications**

The Chief Steward/Chief Judge of either Test may disqualify a competitor at any stage of the competition for:

1. Dangerous riding.
2. Riding a horse that is in his opinion, lame, sick or exhausted.
3. Misuse of whip, spur, or ill treatment of the horse
4. Any breach of Rules.
5. Unseemly behaviour.

### **12.2 Unfitness of horse/pony**

If, at any time during the competition, a horse becomes lame, sick or exhausted, the rider may be asked to withdraw on the authority of the Chief Steward/Judge. The DC/their official appointee (& named on entry form) must be responsible for the horses/ponies that are entered from their Branch. In the event of any doubt re the fitness/soundness of any horse/pony competing, any official shall report the matter to the Chief Steward.

### **12.3 Protests or Objections**

- a. Apart from Officials of the competition, only DCs or their representatives are entitled to lodge protests or objections, which must be made in writing.
- b. Protests or objections must be accompanied by a deposit of €30, which is forfeited unless the Chief Steward, (or Jury of Appeal at the Championships) decide that there were good and reasonable grounds for the objection.
- c. Protests or objections must be made not later than half an hour after the scores have been posted on the notice board.
- d. The Chief Steward/Jury of Appeal will give their decision after investigation and this decision is final.
- e. The Jury of Appeal at the Championships shall be the Chairperson of the IPC the Senior judge of the Phase in question and the Chief Steward.

### **12.4 Branch Representatives**

If a DC is unable to be present at the competition, they must inform the Chief Steward/Organiser of the name of the person representing them.

### **12.5 Substitution Rule**

No substitution of either horse or rider will be allowed after the day of qualification except at the discretion of the Chief Steward. Substitution combinations must have competed at the Area qualifier and have reached the required standard. Once entries have been made for the Championships, substitutions will only be approved by the Chief Steward (ie the Chairman of Dressage and Combined Training) in cases of *bona fide* injury or sickness of the rider or horse/pony. Doctor and/or Veterinary certificates must be produced.

**Each individual DC must enter their qualified members.**

### **12.6 Chief Steward**

The IPC Executive Committee will appoint a Chief Steward with the responsibility for every major IPC competition. The Chief Steward's responsibilities are:

- a) To ensure all rules are complied with.
- b) Disqualifications are applied as prescribed.
- c) To check arrangements for starting and timing the competition and to make sure that the timetable is adhered to.
- d) To check arrangements for collecting score sheets, writing up scoreboards and to check the scoring system.
- e) To inspect and approve the jumping course.
- f) To check medical and veterinary arrangements.
- g) To check the passports of at least those horses/ponies placed first to third and any others that are considered appropriate, including random checks.

### **12.7 Personnel to be organised before the day**

In **plenty of time** before the day:

1. For the Combined Training jumping phase, book a show-jumping judge and course builder from SJI panels.
2. Book dressage judge(s) required from the Dressage Ireland list.
3. A group of able-bodied helpers should be organised in advance to assist with the putting up of rings, arenas and the show jumps etc.
4. Similarly, arrange to get helpers in other areas such as scribing, stewarding etc.

## Section 13. Information Guide for Organisers

### 13.1 Dressage

Arenas 40m x 20m and 60m x 20m on flat ground, in a quiet area, with gap at A for Horse to enter, space behind C for judge's car, not facing into the sun (south), separated from the public by at least 10m. Clear letters with safe surrounds and mown centre line. Tufts of grass, thistles, etc. should be 'topped'. An area for 'riding in' must be provided.

At **Area Qualifiers** there shall be one judge per Arena.

The marks allotted for each movement are added together and any errors of course deducted.

Each **Area Qualifying** Combined Training Competition must be judged with all the competitors in one Arena and before the same judge.

Pure Dressage Competition, when over 30 competitors, there must be 2 Arenas, with 2 riders from each team in each Arena.

At the **Championships** there shall be one or two judges per Arena.

Both judges' marks are added together and the total divided by two.

Only after all the scores have been posted for a minimum of 30 minutes will Judges' marking sheets be handed out (at both Area Qualifiers and Championships). At the discretion of the Chief Steward, competitors or their DC may be permitted to take a photograph of their own score sheet(s) before the 30 minutes has elapsed, but the original score sheets are to be retained by the scorers for the allotted time. If competitors cannot wait for the 30 minutes, the organisers may provide envelopes which the competitor can address, and pay for the postage, in order that the score sheets can be mailed to them.

Materials: Continuous surround of white boards if possible. Intermittent surround of poles is safe and satisfactory (22 poles approx). No rope Arenas. Set of Dressage letters at least 15cms square.

### 13.2 Secretarial

1. Post the Combined Training jumping course plan.
2. Dressage Score sheets for judges (1 per competitor).
3. Rosettes 1 - 6 in each competition and spares in case of ties. "IPC Area Qualifier" if possible.
4. Rule Book.
5. Programme.
6. Numbers for competitors.

### **13.3 On the Day (Personnel)**

- a) 1 judge (SJI) list and one scribe per jumping arena.
- b) 1 course builder (SJI list).
- c) Arena party for jumping arena at least 1 person on duty for the duration of the competition.
- d) 1 judge (Dressage Ireland list) and one scribe per Arena.
- e) 1 Collecting Steward.
- f) 1 Tack steward (complete with tack sheet).
- g) 2 Scorers (minimum).
- h) Score Collectors.
- i) Tea/Coffee person.

### **13.4 Entries**

- 1. Pay Chief Steward's travel expenses.
- 2. Rosettes.
- 3. Pay travel, as used, to Dressage Judges + fee where necessary (as *per* Appendix showing Dressage Ireland Guidelines below).
- 4. Course Builder
- 5. Hire of Fences (if necessary)
- 6. Public Address.
- 7. Jumping Judges travel, as used.
- 8. Refreshments.
- 9. Purchase of dressage test marking sheets, competitors numbers etc.
- 10. Ambulance.

### **13.5 Programme**

As full a programme as possible should be produced.

### **13.6 Signposting**

Signs should be posted from the nearest village or town. Direction Arrows "To the Pony Club" may be purchased from the IPC Shop.

### **13.7 General**

- a) The Car/Box Park should be well away from dressage and schooling areas. Competitors are not allowed to school in the car park
- b) Ambulance (present) required for Show Jumping warm-up and competition phases; Doctor *or* Ambulance required for dressage phase. 'Phone numbers of Doctor (when present) and Veterinary Surgeon (should be at least on call) must be prominently displayed at the Secretary's Tent.

- c) A caravan/trailer/tent should be provided for the Secretary and a separate vehicle provided for the Scorers.
- d) Dressage Judges should be booked in good time. An experienced Judge will manage 30-36 tests if you look after them but try not to overload an inexperienced Judge. Schedule comfort/refreshment breaks and provide refreshments. Do not allow unmounted competitors or their DC/parent/trainer to approach the judges during the competition.
- e) Competitors should ride in numerical order.
- f) A scoreboard should be prominently displayed for spectators, as below:

**Competition "X" (.....)**

**Highest score is best**

Time	No	Branch	Name	Age	Horse/pony	Dressage %	SJ	Total	Place

Where there are two dressage judges for each test:

**Competition "X" (.....)**

**Highest score is best**

Time	No	Branch	Name	Age	Horse/pony	Dressage judge 1 %	Dressage judge 2 %	Average dressage score %	SJ	Total	Place

**13.8 Timetable / Starting Times including Specimen Timetable**

The timetable for the whole competition should be carefully worked out beforehand, and the order, and the starting times of the competitors (including lunch break) should be given to each Branch and the officials and stewards before the competition. They must also be posted outside the entries caravan.

**Competitors should start at:**

Combined Training Dressage	-	7 minutes interval
Pure Dressage	-	7 minutes interval
Show Jumping	-	2 minutes interval

**Specimen Timetable - Dressage**

Time	Arena 1	Arena 2
9.00 - 11.00	Pure Dressage	Novice C.T. Junior C.T.

**Coffee Break**

**Shorten Arena**

11.15- 1.00	Intermediate C.T.	Junior C.T
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**Open/SA C.T**

<b>Lunch</b>	<b>New Judge</b>	<b>New Judge</b>
1.00-3.00	U12 C.T.	U10 C.T.
<b>Break</b>		
3.15 -5.00	U12 C.T.	U10 C.T.

U10 and U12 and Novice riders do their Show Jumping before their Dressage ie from 9.30 (course walk at 9.00) in order of height of fences.

Junior, Intermediate and Open/SA do their Show Jumping after their Dressage, in order of height of fences (NB members riding H/C on a second horse/pony must ride the competition animal first, even if it is in a higher class than the H/C animal, so allow time for fences to be adjusted accordingly).

### APPENDIX

Dressage Ireland Guidelines for payment of travel expenses to Dressage Judges

- 60 cent per km (200 km return = €120)
- Advised minimum is €80, if judges work a long day, some adjustment would be appreciated (e.g. to €100?)
- Easiest is to ask for the kilometres driven when judges arrive and pay expenses accordingly when they leave.
- Some organisations and regions limit this to €130 or don't book judges that have to travel in excess of 250-300 km.
- Short distances travelled would still expect expense of €80, especially now with the high cost of fuel.