



AREA 5 PONY CLUB WINTER LEAGUE DRESSAGE OBJECTIVE AND RULES

Updated 27.9.22 Final

1. Objective of the Competition

- 1.1 The objective is to provide an inter-branch team and individual dressage competition (Winter League Dressage WLDr) for all Branches in Area 5, from October to March. Referred to below as the “Season”, in five test classes, involving as many Area 5 members as possible providing a framework to encourage a competitive spirit, continuous and consistent improvement in riding ability.
- 1.2 The Season will be deemed to have started with the commencement of the first competition.
- 1.3 An Area 5 WLDr secretary will be appointed by the Area 5 Winter League Committee prior to the commencement of the Season. The secretary shall be responsible for compiling and updating the league table after each competition and publishing the results.

2. The Competition

- 2.1 The Competition will comprise five classes:

Class 1 Walk Trot Test	- Walk Trot Test 2022 (lead rein permitted);
Class 2 Grassroots	- Grassroots Test 2018;
Class 3 Novice	- Novice Test 2020;
Class 4 Intermediate	- Intermediate Test 2022;
Class 5 Open	- Open Test 2020
- 2.2 The Organising Branch/Branches may offer additional Classes. These Classes will not form a part of the WLDr Competition. The Schedule must detail what rules these classes are to be run under.
- 2.3 The WLDr will be run under the Pony Club Dressage Rules as at the beginning of the Season.
- 2.4 Commanders are allowed for all Tests.

3. Teams

- 3.1 A Team will comprise a minimum of three and a maximum of four members of that Branch. The four may compete at different levels/Class or all at the same level/Class or a mixture of the two.
- 3.2 The Team must comprise at least three members (i.e. one member may ride two horses) and the top three scores to count.
- 3.3 Teams, and Team members, are to be detailed on the entry form.

4. Team Members

Any Area 5 Branch member is eligible to be a member of a Team subject to the following conditions:

- 4.1 They must be a member of the Branch in whose Team they compete or, where the team is a Combined Team, they must be a member of one of the Branches.
- 4.2 Horses and members must have attended a minimum of three rallies/qualifying coaching/training sessions since the 1st January of the year in which the Season commenced.
- 4.3 A Team member may compete in different Classes, at different competitions, during a Season.

5. Results and WL Points

- 5.1 The result of the Individual competition will be decided upon the total dressage score. The combination, horse and rider, with the highest percentage score being the winner. In the event of equality, the highest collective marks will be the deciding factor.
- 5.2 The result of the Team competition will be decided upon the placings achieved by three members. Points will be awarded to each Team member depending on their placing (1st = 1 point, 2nd = 2 points etc) relative only to other Team members in the Class and not on their overall placing in the Class. Any members riding as an individual in the same Class as Team members shall be ignored. The points for the three best placed Team members shall be added together to give the Team score. The winning Team will be the Team with the least points.
- 5.3 WL Teams and Individuals, placed first to sixth in each Class, will be awarded WL points on a descending scale of six points for first place, and one point for sixth place.
- 5.4 The Organiser shall publish the results of each Class in writing or use live scoring, such as Pony Club Results. Where results are displayed in writing a full list of riders, Scores and provisional placings are to be available on a noticeboard, where they can be seen at least 15 minutes prior to the presentation for that Class, to allow time for objections to be made and/or errors to be corrected.
- 5.5 The Organiser shall appoint, if required, a Jury of Appeal consisting of the District Commissioner of the organising Branch(es), one of the judges and the Area 5 Representative. If the Area Representative is not present then the DC of a visiting Branch not directly involved in the appeal, may be invited to join the Jury.
- 5.6 Protests and Objections will, as far as possible and consistent with these Rules, be dealt with under the relevant paragraph of the Pony Club Dressage Rules.
- 5.7 The Organiser shall, within three days of the Competition, post the results on Pony Club Results and shall send a copy of the results to the Area 5 website and the WLDr secretary.

6. Awarding of Rosettes

- 6.1 In each Class, for both Teams and Individuals, rosettes are to be awarded to 6th place.
- 6.2 In each Class an Individual competition will run alongside the Team competition. All combinations entered in the Class will be eligible for the award of rosettes.
- 6.3 At the final competition of the Season rosettes, will be awarded to the Teams and Individuals in each Class, who are placed 1st to 4th, based upon the total number of points accumulated during the Season.

7. Organisation of Competitions

- 7.1 The Organiser is responsible for all Health and Safety issues at the competition and should take all reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone present. All members, and others attending, must take reasonable steps to avoid and prevent accidents and must obey the instructions of the organisers, officials and stewards.
- 7.2 The Organiser must carry out a risk assessment before the commencement of the competition and Organisers should issue a disclaimer of liability, both prior to, and at the competition.
- 7.3 Any member who is riding a horse or pony which is considered by the organiser, an official or steward to be unsafe in any respect, either for that rider or for any other person present, or any person who is acting in any way which is considered unsafe, should be spoken to discreetly and, if appropriate, prevented from taking any further part in that competition and may be asked to leave the venue.