

Rule Changes Applicable to Judges for 2012

Please note some rule numbers may have changed

Rule 4 – Grading of Riders

Group 3

Riders who have won points at PSG level or above (including FEI Young Rider classes) after 1 April 1994 (except Groups 1-2a). **Also riders who have, in the last 12 months prior to claiming, gained 62% or above in Advanced 102 or 105 or FEI YR level tests and have claimed Group 3 status in order to ride at PSG by writing to the BD Office (see Rule 5d) .**

Rule 23 – Tests in use for 2012

NEW TESTS

Novice 23 2012	(20m x 60m, 4.30 minutes)
Advanced Medium 90 2012	(20m x 40m, 5 minutes)
Advanced 102 2012	(20m x 60m, 5.30 minutes)
*BD Intermediate II 2012	(20m x 60m, 5.30 minutes)
*BD Int II is a new BD test, not an FEI test	
FEI Olympic Grand Prix Special (2012)	

AMENDED TESTS

Introductory Freestyle 2012	(20m x 40m, 3.30-4 minutes)
Preliminary Freestyle 2012	(20m x 60m, 4-5 minutes) *
Novice Freestyle 2012	(20m x 60m, 4-5 minutes) *
Elementary Freestyle 2012	(20m x 60m, 4.30-5 minutes) *
Medium Freestyle 2012	(20m x 60m, 4.30-5 minutes)
Advanced Medium Freestyle 2012	(20m x 60m, 4.30-5 minutes)
(*Or 20m x 40m at Organisers discretion – will be 20m x 60m at Regionals & Championships.)	

DELETED TESTS

Preliminary 10 (2002)
Novice 20 (2007)
Novice 36 (2002) – <i>this was previously a Qualifier test</i>
Elementary 58 (2004) – <i>this was previously a Qualifier test</i>
Medium 64 (2006)
Advanced Medium 84 (2008)

Rule 37 – Prize Money and Rosettes

a) Prize money

Prize money is mandatory, except for Para Equestrian Dressage classes.

The number of prizes given and the amount of prize money, or type of prize if in kind, must be stated in the Schedule and is unrestricted. Once stated, this can only be reduced in the event of entries falling below the minimum scale as shown in the below table

Place	Entries
1 st	5 – 8
2 nd	9 – 12
3 rd	13 – 16
4 th onwards	at Organiser's discretion.

Entries are as per the number of horses stated on the published times

The amount given for 1st prize must exceed the entry fee, and if entry fees are discounted for groups such as club members, must exceed the highest entry fee charged. Prize money will be paid per class eg. over both sections, unless stated otherwise in the competition schedule. Vouchers/prizes in kind can only be given if in addition to prize money.

b) Rosettes

Rosettes must be given to the scale in the below table for competitions but Organisers are encouraged to award at least up to 6th place. Where the classes are split in to sections the scale applies to each section. Rosettes and prize money for Training sections will be at the discretion of the Organiser.

Place	Rosette Scale
1 st	1 – 4
2 nd	5 – 8
3 rd	9 – 12
4 th	13 – 16
5 th	17 – 20
6 th	21 – 24
7 th	25 and over starters

Rule 39 – Dress

Advanced Tests – Tail coat with protective hat or top hat, or short jacket with protective hat both with correctly tied white/cream stock or tie. Uniform may be worn with protective hat or uniform cap.

Introductory to Advanced Medium Tests (including FEI Junior tests) – Uniform, short jacket or tweed coat with correctly tied stock, white American Collar or shirt and tie, and protective hat.

Rule 40 – Hats

Protective hats, as listed below, must be worn by all riders at all times when mounted at a British Dressage competition, including exercising, warming up and competing. Top hats and uniform hats are permitted as an exception to this rule only for Advanced to Grand Prix classes (including FEI Young Rider level) but only for the warm up directly prior to the competition (which may include riding from horse box park/stable to warm up arena) and competition test. It is however recommended that riders to whom this exception applies wear protective hats at all times for their own safety.

All other classes require protective hats to be worn. Classes restricted to Under 21 riders only may require protective hats at all levels and will include any such statement in the schedule. Organisers may also prescribe venue specific rules that are stricter than stated if clearly shown in their schedules.

All protective hats must meet one of the following standards;
PAS 015, EN1384, BSEN1384 - (BD strongly recommends that hats are BSI Kitemarked)
ASTM F1163 (2004) with SEI mark
SNELL E2001
Australian & New Zealand All AS/NZS 3838 1998
or any new standard that meets or exceeds those stated.

Protective hats may be worn in place of a top hat at Advanced to Grand Prix and with both short jacket and tail coat. Harnesses must be correctly fastened at all times when mounted. Hats and hat covers must be predominately black or navy blue or of a conservative dark colour that matches the rider's jacket.

Competitors are strongly recommended to check their hats are correctly fitted and replace them if damaged, or following a fall, and are responsible for ensuring their hat meets the required standards above. Competitors are also advised to check the wording of any insurance policy they may depend on in case of accident for any specific requirements regarding the wearing of hats.

If any hat comes off during a dressage test, it must be replaced immediately; the competitor may dismount or the hat may be handed to them. The test will be restarted at the beginning of the movement during which it came off. There will be no penalty for error of course but if the hat is not replaced the competitor will be eliminated.

If a rider enters the arena and proceeds down the centre line and is not wearing a protective hat as described previously when required, the bell will sound and the rider will be told to leave the arena. At the discretion of the organiser and the judge, the rider may be permitted to restart the test once properly attired.

If a rider persists in not wearing a protective hat after having been warned to dismount until correctly attired, the penalty for contravening this rule will be elimination from all classes on that day. This will also apply if a rider's hat is found not to comply with the previous stated standards as a result of a spot check.

Rule 44 - Spurs

any shank on the back of the heel must point towards the rear and the end must be clearly horizontal to the ground or pointing downwards. Swan neck spurs are permitted subject to the above restriction

Rule 47 – Saddles

Side saddles and treeless saddles are permitted but riders choosing to ride side saddle must notify the organiser before the start of the class. Western style, traditional Iberian or Arabian (with raised pommel and/or cantle) or brightly coloured saddles are not permitted.

Rule 49 – Bridles

The Miklem multibridle is permitted and must be used with a permitted bit **and without bit clips**.

Rule 55 – Warming Up

End of 5th para add – “**In all other competitions the horse may be warmed up (including being competed in an earlier class) by another person.**”

Stallions **must** be identified by the rider wearing a yellow cross band or **stallion disc** whilst working in. **(BD stallion discs now available to by £2 a pair)**

Rule 58 – Double Bridles

The lever arm of the curb is limited to 10 cm in length (length below the mouthpiece). **The upper cheek must not be longer than the lower cheek.** The ring of the bridoon”

Rule 66 – Riding in Collecting Ring or Practice arena

Added to i) **an organiser may impose a limit on the number of horses allowed in the warm up arena giving priority to those closest to performing their test.**

Rule 74 – Entering arena before signal to start

Where the class is held on an artificial surface and or the construction of the arena makes it impossible for the competitor to ride **outside the entire circumference of the arena**, before the judge’s signal to enter is sounded, he/she may ride inside the area.

Rule 89 – Scoring Method

Each Judge will allot from 0-10 points for each numbered movement. **Half marks from 0.5-9.5 may also be used both for movements and collective marks in tests of PSG – GP, all Para tests and FEI U21 tests, at the discretion of the judge.**

Added to end of the same para - **Where there is a panel of 2 or more judges, the final percentage is calculated by adding the scores for all judges and calculating the percentage for the combined total.**

Rule 98 - Welfare procedure

Added in - Any horse which has a “sore patch”, an area where hair has been rubbed off and the skin is inflamed, in a location where there is a danger that the skin could be broken if the horse was continued to be ridden, must be withdrawn from competition. If the sore patch is not noticed until after a test has been completed, then elimination will only occur if the skin is broken, however the horse may not continue to compete for the remainder of the competition thereafter, unless approved to continue by an independent vet

Rule 107 – Positioning of Judges

Added in - The judges box should be sited a minimum of 2 meters away from the side of the arena to ensure a full view

Rule 108 –Judging Restrictions

Change to i) Judge up to a maximum of 40 horses

Rule 121 – Championships

Cut-off date for summer regionals changed to 17th June 2012

Start date for the winter regionals changed to 18th June 2012

The cut-off date for PSG-GP direct qualifications will be the last day of the final Premier League competition of that calendar year.

Rule 123 - Summary tables for championships qualification

Novice Open 20 points, percentage increased from 66% to 67%.

Advanced Medium (R) – changed points to 8; percentage to remain at 63%

Advanced Medium (O) – changed points to 10; percentage to remain at 64%

Rule 136 - Novice Winter Freestyle Championship

a) Amended percentage for Open section to 67% for qualifiers starting on 1 January 2012.
(We need to leave quals in Dec at 66% as freestyles qualify Jan – Dec)

Rule 138 - Medium Winter Freestyle Championship

a) There will be an unlimited number of qualifiers with the two highest non-qualified combinations in both the open and restricted sections, gaining 64% or above for open and 63% for restricted, qualifying for Winter Regional Championships.

Rule 143 - Potential International Dressage Horse Championship qualifying classes

New a) Classes to be held in an arena no smaller than 60 x 20 or equivalent area (1200 sq m) and ideally should be enclosed with fencing.

Appendix 3 – Judges Complaints Procedure (New)

Complaints relating to Judges, a Judges conduct, behaviour or performance or the judging of a particular class or competition will be considered according to the following procedure:

Requirements

All complaints must be made in writing and be signed by the complainant who shall also give their full name and address either by letter or email addressed to the Chief Executive.

Complaints not made in accordance with this rule will not be accepted.

Complaints will only be accepted in relation to the conduct or performance of BD Judges in connection with affiliated competition. Complaints relating to unaffiliated competitions will not be considered unless BD has provided judging services to a related organisation (including British Eventing, The British Riding Clubs and The Pony Club).

Complaints regarding scores will not be accepted, (Rule 92 provides that a Judge's decision is final in relation to scores). Complaints or challenges to scores should be dealt with under Rule 94 – Objections.

Complaints should where possible be supported by evidence or statements from independent witnesses.

Confidentiality

Complaints will be dealt with in a discrete manner.

Process

1. As soon as possible after an incident anyone wishing to complain should send a written complaint to the CEO giving as much information as possible about the incident concerned including where possible details of any independent witnesses and any video/DVD and or copies of any test sheets of other documents. The complaint should be sent to the CEO to either:
Email: amandabond@britishdressage.co.uk or
Post: Chief Executive, British Dressage, Stoneleigh Park, Kenilworth, Warwickshire, CV8 2RJ

If a complaint is made more than 14 days after the incident complained of the Chief Executive may in his/her sole discretion refuse to investigate the complaint.

2. The CEO will acknowledge receipt of the complaint as soon as reasonably possible. The CEO may at this stage request further evidence such as video/DVD, copies of test sheets or names of witnesses.

3. The CEO will review the complaint and supporting evidence to consider whether or not it requires further investigation. Complaints not supported by evidence are unlikely to be considered or investigated. In this respect the decision of the CEO is final.

4. If the CEO considers that the complaint should be investigated, the Judge detailed in the complaint will be asked to respond to the complaint. Such response should be received by the CEO within 14 days of the request for a response being made. In the absence of a response the CEO will be entitled to consider the complaint in any event. The CEO will also make any further enquiries he or she considers to be appropriate.

5. If having made further enquiries the CEO considers that the complaint should be pursued further the complainant will be informed and a copy of the complaint may be provided to the judge who is the subject of the complaint.

Complaints for poor conduct

Following investigation the CEO may take one or more of the following courses of action.

- (i) The CEO may decide to take no further action.
- (ii) The CEO may issue cautions or reprimands under Appendix 4 of the BD Rules
- (iii) The CEO may refer any complaint to the Disciplinary Sub Committee for consideration and a full hearing. In this instance, the Judge will be suspended from judging until the outcome of the hearing (under Rule 92 of the BD rule book).

Judges receiving two or more cautions or reprimands in any 12 month period will be referred to the full Judges Committee. In such event the Judges Committee will consider the previous complaints and may take such action as it considers appropriate in the circumstances. For the avoidance of doubt the Judges Committee will also give an opportunity to the Judge complained of to make representations.

Judging complaints

Complaints of poor judging will be reviewed by the CEO and at least one member of the Judge

Complaints Committee who may take one or more of the following courses of action.

- (i) To take no further action
- (ii) To issue a warning letter to the judge. Such a letter will be in the form of a letter guiding the judge concerned how the matter should or could have been dealt with more effectively.
- (iii) To refer the matter to the full Judge Complaints Committee.

In the event that a warning letter is issued the judge may either accept the letter or may request the CEO to refer the matter to the full Judge Complaints Committee. Such request shall be made within 21 days of the issue of the letter of concern.

Judges receiving more than two warning letters in any 12 month period will be referred to the Judges Committee. In such event the Judges Committee will consider the previous complaints and may take such action as it considers appropriate in the circumstances. For the avoidance of doubt the Judges Committee will give an opportunity to the Judge complained of to make representations.

Any appeal from a decision of the Judges Committee or the Judge Complaints Committee will be in accordance with the BD Rules from time to time.

The Chief Executive may in their sole discretion provide the complainant with information concerning the outcome of the complaint.

The decision as to how a complaint is dealt with in this procedure is a matter for the CEO in his/her absolute discretion.