

## Rule changes for 2021



We are aware of some confusion that has been caused by the incorrect wording that appears in the latest issue of the BD magazine, relating to eligibility for Bronze and Quest competition. For clarification, here is a summary of the rule changes and new rules, as published in the BD Members' Handbook (and marked in bold), which are effective from 1 January 2021.

### Horse welfare

#### **Sensory Hairs:**

Trimming of the horse's sensory hairs around the mouth, nose, eyes and ears is not permitted, as this may reduce the horses' sensory ability. (Please refer to the FEI rules for International Competition).

### Membership

From 1 January 2021, a continuous membership must be maintained in order for qualifications to stand. If a membership lapses or is cancelled any qualifications gained will be lost.

### Para

Para Riders with a large pocket badge are not permitted to compete at Area Festivals in any section; however, they are permitted to compete at Regionals in the Silver section, if eligible.

A jowl strap is permitted in all BD Para competitions.

Bridles and bridle numbers **MUST** be worn at all BD Para competitions, at ALL times whilst handling a horse outside a stable.

### Eligibility, Qualifications & Championships

#### **Bronze eligibility tables:**

For the rider to be eligible to compete in the Bronze section they may not have won more than 25 points at the level above, or competed / have any points at the higher levels. For example, at Elementary Bronze: no more than 25 points at Medium, or have points / competed at Advanced Medium or higher.

For the horse to be eligible in the Bronze section they may not have won more than 25 points at two levels above or competed / have any points at the higher levels. For example, at Elementary Bronze: no more than 25 points at Advanced Medium or have points / competed at PSG or higher.

#### **PSG & Inter I Silver qualification:**

Qualification for the Regional Championships will be by achieving six points from qualifiers, with a minimum of 64%.

**Prelim Gold:**

To qualify for the Winter or Summer Regional Championships, combinations must earn 20 points, all from qualifiers, with a minimum of 66% (as per Silver section in 2020).

**Middle Tour Championship:**

To qualify for the Middle Tour Championship, combinations must achieve three points in the Inter A/B/II classes in either the Silver or Gold section. Scores from qualifiers and no-qualifiers may be used, including Pick Your Own.

**Extension to gaining PSG status:**

Due to lockdown, it has been more challenging for riders to gain eligibility to compete at Prix St Georges (PSG) level. In view of this, an extension will be considered on an individual case by case basis. Please apply in writing to [charlene.bryant@britishdressage.co.uk](mailto:charlene.bryant@britishdressage.co.uk).

**Combined Training:**

Showjumping rounds are now timed in accordance with the BS Club rules: a maximum time of two minutes will apply, with all other faults as per the British Showjumping Handbook.

**Quest Competitions:**

For the rider to be eligible to compete in Team Quest / My Quest they may not have won more than 15 points at the level above or competed / have points at the higher levels. For example, at Prelim TQ/MQ no more than 15 points at Novice, or have points / competed at Elementary or higher.

For the horse to be eligible to compete in TQ / MQ they may not have won more than 15 points at two levels above or competed/ have points at the higher levels. For example, at Prelim TQ/MQ no more than 15 points at Elementary or have points / competed at Medium or higher.

If a horse or rider becomes ineligible on or after the closing date of entries, they are still permitted to compete in the class they have entered.

**Area Festivals:**

For the Summer Area Festivals, competitors may compete at more than one Area Festival if they have repeated the full qualification. No points can be carried forward to make additional qualifications.

One score (at 60%+) for each level / section must be gained from a qualifying test.

**Associated Championships:**

Pre-registration is now required at the start of the qualifying period for your horse and society you wish to compete for.

## Judges

**Removal of rule:**

Retirement on the final centre line resulting in elimination.

**Extreme Weather:**

During adverse weather conditions or other extreme situations, the judge at C may ring the bell for the interruption of the test. The rider should return to complete the test when conditions permit. It is up to the rider whether to restart the test from the beginning or to commence from the point the adverse weather or extreme conditions occurred. In either case, the marks already given to the point at which the test was stopped will not be changed.

**Tack , Rider Dress & Equipment**

Top Hats are no longer permitted at national and international competitions. This includes service hats that do not comply with regulation.

Reins must be used in their manufactured condition without any addition or adaption to any part.

Glitter, pastes or paints / ointments are forbidden unless worn in breed specific classes.

Spurs, must be a pair (except when riding side saddle), made of metal (which may be coated) and used in the manufactured state. Please refer to the members' tack guide for examples of permitted spurs.