

British Dressage



Tack & Equipment

Approved tack and equipment for competition
to be used alongside the Members' Handbook.

www.britishdressage.co.uk

Welcome

British Dressage Tack & Equipment Guide

This revised pictorial guide has been devised to be used alongside the British Dressage Members' Handbook for clarification on permitted tack and equipment. British Dressage endeavours to mirror FEI Rules for permitted tack and equipment.

Tack reviews are ongoing but, any additional permitted tack and equipment updates will only be issued twice yearly to coincide with the beginning of the summer and winter seasons (1 December and 30 June).

At all BD Championships, there will be an appointed BD steward(s) in attendance in all warm up arenas responsible for tack and equipment checking every competitor each time they compete. This will be a physical (not just visual) tack check, including nosebands. It's the organisers' responsibility to appoint stewards for this function and they must be BD or FEI qualified to the appropriate level, for further guidelines on the official tack check, please see rule 108 in the 2022 Members Handbook.

For the complete guidelines on permitted tack and riding the test and penalties, please see section Section 1 of the Members' Handbook. If the equipment that you are looking at are similar to those pictured, it's permitted for use in BD competitions. If you have a query on any tack or equipment that you're unsure about, please email a picture of the item to the Member Experience Manager for clarification.

NB:

Please note that bridles without a throatlash will be permitted for use for national competitions, for international competitions please check FEI rules.

Bitting Rings and cheeks

Egg butt (also permitted for bridoons)		✓
Loose ring (also permitted for bridoons)		✓
Sleeved cheeks	 	✓
Shaped sleeved cheeks		✗
Full cheek / Fulmer		✓
Hanging cheek/Baucher		✓
D-ring		✓
Various gag cheeks		✗
Myler (or similar) cheeks for use with hooks		✗
Bevel bit/cheeks		✗

Any combination of permitted cheeks and permitted mouth pieces can be used under BD rules.

Bitting Bits and mouthpieces

<p>Ported unjointed bit</p>		
<p>Mullen mouth (including Flexible mouthpieces)</p>		 <p>(Not for use as part of a double bridle)</p>
<p>Double jointed snaffle</p>		
<p>Single jointed snaffle (including Lock up) NB Lock-up snaffle may not be used as a bridleon</p>		
<p>Loose ring dressage plate</p>		
<p>Cable double jointed</p>		
<p>Ported barrel</p>		

Bitting Bits and mouthpieces

Cable single jointed		✓
B-ring snaffle		✗
Dr Bristol		✗
Mouthpiece with rotating middle piece		✓
Jointed barrel mouthpiece		✓
Low ported barrel		✓
Double jointed plastic bit		✓
Happy Mouth straight bar		✗
Hippus C1100		✗

Bitting Bits and mouthpieces

Kimblewick		
Magennis		
Weymouth (largest and smallest ports illustrated)		
Plastic covered Weymouth		
Neue Schule Turtle Tilt		
Weymouth with sliding mouthpiece or rotating arms		
Winning Tongue Plate NP Bit (any type)		
Various mouthpieces (including leather mouthpieces)		

Bitting Bits and mouthpieces

Bit guards		✗
Clip cheek piece attachment <u>only</u>		✓ ✗ Not permitted on reins
Bit clips on ergonomic bridles or full cheeked snaffles		✗
Curb chain cover		✓

Tack Bridles and nosebands

Bridle with anatomical/padded headpiece		✓
Combination/ergonomic bridles (clips on Micklem are not permitted)		✓

Tack Bridles and nosebands

<p>Cornell Collar</p>			
<p>Dyon X-Fit Anatomic</p>			
<p>Dyon Difference (double and snaffle bridle)</p>			
<p>Stubben Snaffle 2500 Freedom</p>			
<p>Shadow Horse – bridle with D-rings at poll</p>			
<p>PS of Sweden noseband</p>			

Tack Bridles and nosebands

Drop noseband		
Figure of eight or Grackle noseband (sheepskin pad under crossover sections is permitted)		
Flash noseband		
Tota Comfort System noseband		
Looped/modified Reins (including knotted reins)		 Unless dispensation has been granted
Padding in addition to manufactured noseband		

Bridles are to be used in the conventionally accepted manner and must consist of a brow band, cheek pieces and noseband unless a combination bridle is used.

Bridles are to be black, brown, grey or navy, coloured piping is permitted.

Tack

Saddles and stirrups

Western saddle		✘
Treeless/Close Contact saddles		✘ All saddles must have a cantle and a pommel
Side saddle		✔ Organiser and judge must be notified prior to competition
Arabian saddle		✘
Iberian saddle		✘
Magnetic stirrups		✘
Any colour stirrups		✔
Velcro straps to stirrups		✘

Saddles are to be black, brown, grey or navy - small panels of colour are permitted.

Equipment Spurs and whips

Comb spurs		
Rollerball spurs		
Rowelled spurs Now permitted for all classes		 Rowels must have rounded ends – rowelled spurs with pointed ends will be removed
Spursuaders		
Swan neck spurs		 Fitted as illustrated left
Vertical rowels/rollerball spurs		

NB - Spurs - the shank of the spur must be horizontal to the ground or pointing down. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in elimination.

Spurs must be made of metal (which may be coated) and used in their manufactured state.

Please see individual championship rules for specific rulings on whips and spurs in the BD Members' Handbook 2022. Spurs may now be worn at all levels.

Riders may carry one whip unless they hold a valid dispensation certificate. Whips may be used at Premier Leagues unless the selectors specific otherwise, but may not be used at Area Festivals, Associated Championships, Combined Training Championships, Regionals or Winter/National Championships. Failure to adhere to this rule will result in elimination from the class.

Equipment Competitor dress

<p>Navy jackets with red collar and points with silver piping (tail coat or short coat)</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">✗</p> <p>Red collars with white/silver piping are not permitted on a navy jacket or tailcoat unless you are a championship team rider. Please see rule 3 in 2021 Members' Handbook</p>
<p>Jackets</p>		<p>Jackets may be in any conservative. Jackets must be worn in all Championship, Regional, Premier League and High Profile classes</p>
<p>Waistcoats</p>		<p>Fitted waistcoats in a conservative colour may be worn with a long or short sleeved shirt that fastens at the neck with a tie, white round collar or correctly fasted stock in a solid pale colour.</p>
<p>Show Shirt</p>		<p>A long or short sleeved shirt that fastens at the neck with a tie, white round collar or correctly fasted stock in any solid colour.</p>
<p>Mirrored hats</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">✗</p>
<p>Top hats</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">✗</p>
<p>Electronic Devices/Headset</p>		<p style="text-align: center;">✗</p> <p>Permitted in warm up <u>only</u> unless dispensation has been granted.</p>

Jackets may be in any conservative colour, in muted tones. Contrast piping is permitted. Jackets must be worn in all championship, Regional, Premier League and High Profile classes, however you are permitted to ride without a jacket in all other classes. A fitted waistcoat in a conservative colour may be worn. If no jacket is worn, a sleeved traditional style shirt with a tie, American collar or fastened stock is permitted.

Equipment Accessories/additional equipment

<p>Fly veil/hood</p>		
<p>Infrared fly veil/poll guard/saddlecloth</p>	   	
<p>Nose net (use with strap on the chin not permitted)</p>		 <p>Not permitted under FEI rules</p>
<p>Face masks</p>	 	 <p>Not permitted under FEI rules</p>
<p>Hoof boots</p>		 <p>Any covering of the heel is not permitted</p>
<p>Neck straps</p>		

Equipment

Accessories/additional equipment

Exercise sheets		 Although permitted for warm up <u>only</u>
Titanium hood		

Table of penalties: Competitor Dress

Rule	Rule no.	Penalty
Hat - not worn	76	Elimination
Hat - incorrect colour	76	Two mark deduction
Hat - incorrect standard	76	Elimination
Jacket - not worn in Championship, Premier League or High Profile without judge's permission	73	Two mark deduction
Jacket - incorrect colour	73	Two mark deduction
Breeches - incorrect colour, patterned	77	Two mark deduction
Waistcoat - incorrect colour	73	Two mark deduction
Gloves - not worn	78	Two mark deduction
Boots - not suitable for riding	79	Elimination
Shirt - sleeveless/patterned	73	Two mark deduction
Gaiters - not matching boots	79	Two mark deduction
Spurs - Worn incorrectly, not made of metal/incorrect type/excessive use	80	Elimination
Whip - carrying at a Championship as per rule 81 (without dispensation)	81	Elimination
Carrying more than one whip without dispensation/excessive/inappropriate use	81	Elimination

Table of penalties: Saddlery

Rule	Rule no.	Penalty
Saddle - incorrect colour	84	Two mark deduction
Saddle - western/other unspecified type	84	Elimination
Stirrups - none used/attached to girth by Velcro strap (without dispensation)/attached by mechanical or magnetic means	84	Elimination
Bridle - padding of cheek pieces/no noseband/no bit/bitguards/use of a double bridle at Intro, Prelim and Novice/use of tongue strap/additional noseband padding	87	Elimination

Table of penalties: Saddlery continued

Rule	Rule no.	Penalty
Bridle - incorrect colour/decorated with tassels/ indiscreetly padded	87	Two mark deduction
Use of other additions/equipment/gadgets - martingales, side/running/draw reins, hoof boots, rugs, kinesiology tape (in competition)	88	Elimination
Prohibited bits	94	Elimination
Boots/bandages worn during test	88	Elimination
Unusual decoration	89	Two mark deduction
Bridle Numbers - none or one / incorrect number bridle number on display	104	Two mark deduction

Riding the test

Rule	Rule no.	Penalty
Exceeding maximum number of tests per day	110	Elimination
Commanders reading anything other than printed text/ emphasising any part of the command	83	Elimination
Outside assistance by voice, signs etc in order to improve competitor's performance	107	Elimination
Intentionally entering the arena before the signal to start	109	Two mark deduction
Failing to enter within 45 seconds of signal to start	109	Two mark deduction
Failure to start within 90 seconds of signal to start	109	Elimination
Incorrect/no salute	112	Two mark deduction
Repeating a movement (penalize as error of course and mark first attempt only)	119	Appropriate to error
Horse placing all four feet out of the arena where arena boards are continuous and less than nine inches high	113	Zero for that movement
Horse placing all four feet outside the arena where marked by a line or intermittent boards	113	At Judges discretion
Horse leaving arena when continuous arena board or surround is nine inches or higher	113	Elimination
Leaving the arena not in control	113	Elimination
Rider dismounting without reason acceptable to judge	114	Zero for that movement

Riding the test continued

Rule	Rule no.	Penalty
Fall of horse/rider	114	Compulsory retirement
Horse refusing to continue for a period of 20 consecutive seconds	115	Elimination
Use of voice	116	Two mark deduction per movement
When competitor makes error of the test (trots rising instead of sitting, doesn't take reins in one hand at salute etc)	119	Two mark deduction per movement
Rising trot in Advanced Medium and above tests	121	Two mark deduction per movement
Dressage to music test exceeding the time allowed or shorter than time given	117	Two mark deduction
Movements of a higher standard than level for Dressage to Music test being performed	117	Two mark deduction
Stallion disc/yellow cross band not shown when riding a stallion	91	Two mark deduction

Welfare of the horse

Rule	Rule no.	Penalty
Lameness	Welfare of horse	Elimination
Blood	Welfare of horse	Elimination
Hyperflexion	Welfare of horse	Elimination
Sensory hairs	Welfare of horse	Elimination