

CHAPTER 4 - DRESSAGE AND COMBINED TRAINING

DRESSAGE RULES

400 DRESSAGE COMPETITIONS

A Dressage competition is composed of one or more competitions between at least two athletes performing Dressage Tests at specified levels of difficulty. These Rules relate to all HAK Dressage competitions. The General and Veterinary Rules also apply [**Dress 161 – 175, Saddlery 180 – 186, Annexes GR I – IV**]

401 OBJECT AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF DRESSAGE

401.1 The Object of Dressage is the development of the horse into a happy athlete through harmonious education. As a result, it makes the horse calm, supple, loose and flexible, but also confident, attentive and keen, thus achieving perfect understanding with the athlete.

401.1.1 These qualities are revealed by: freedom and regularity of the paces, lightness and ease of the movements, lightness of the forehand and the engagement of the hindquarters originating from a lively impulsion.

401.1.2 The acceptance of the bridle, with submissiveness throughout and without any tension or resistance.

401.2 The horse thus gives the impression of doing, of his own accord, what is required of him. Confident and attentive, submitting generously to the control of the athlete, remaining absolutely straight in any movement on a straight line and bending accordingly when moving on curved lines.

401.3 The walk is regular, free and unconstrained. The trot is free, supple, regular and active. The canter is united, light and balanced. The hindquarters are never inactive or sluggish. They respond to the slightest indication of the athlete and thereby give life and spirit to all the rest of his body.

401.4 By virtue of a lively impulsion and suppleness of the joints, free from the paralysing effects of resistance, the horse obeys willingly and without hesitation and responds to the various aids calmly and with precision, displaying a natural and harmonious balance both physically and mentally.

401.5 In all the work even at halt, the horse must be “on the bridle“. “On the bridle” is when the neck is more or less raised and arched according to the stage of training and the extension or collection of the pace, accepting the bridle with a light and soft contact and submissiveness throughout. The head should remain in a steady position, as a rule slightly in front of the vertical, with a supple poll as the highest point of the neck, and no resistance should be offered to the athlete.

401.6 Cadence is shown in trot and canter, and is the result of the proper harmony that a horse shows when it moves with a well-marked regularity, impulsion and balance. Cadence must be maintained in all the different trot or canter exercises and in all the variations of these paces.

401.7 The regularity of the paces is fundamental to Dressage.

402 DRESSAGE TESTS AND DRESSAGE TEST BOOK

Dressage tests are published in the Dressage Test Book by the HAK Technical Committee. They will choose a specific numbered test of a specific year for each competition at each show (eg. Novice B no. 3 - 2013). The Dressage Tests Book **with terms, explanations and levels**, may be purchased from the HAK Office.

403 DRESSAGE COMPETITIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

- 403.1 Preliminary: for horses/ponies with less than 24 grading points.
- 403.2 Novice B: for horses/ponies with less than 80 grading points.
- 403.3 Novice A: for horses/ponies with 2 – 159 grading points.
- 403.4 Simple Elementary: for horses/ponies with 16 - 249 grading points.
- 403.5 Open Elementary: for horses/ponies with 24 or more grading points.
- 403.6 Advanced Elementary: for horses/ponies with 80 or more grading points.
- 403.7 Medium: for horses/ponies with 160 or more grading points.
- 403.8 Special Sections will be included with EACH level for horses/ponies, which are no longer eligible. Horses may be drawn within the substantive class. Eligibility is: Preliminary with 24 or more, Novice B with 80 or more, Novice A with 160 or more, Simple E with 250 or more. **ONLY** a first rosette will be awarded to the horse/pony with the highest marks over 60%. **Prize money will not be given.**

403.9 At Eventing shows where tests higher than Simple Elementary are not offered, there may be a separate Open Class of Simple Elementary for horses with 250 or more Grading Points.

- 403.10 No horse/pony may compete more than once in any test even if in different sections or if the score of one performance is being used for different or separate competitions. The only exception is with Dressage and Combined Training. IF there are two or more sections, then one horse may be ridden by one athlete for a result in the Combined Training Phase One Test only in one section and another athlete in a different section for a result in the Dressage test only [103.12].

404 TIMING AND PAUSES IN TESTS

- 404.1 The time allowed for each test is indicated at the top of the judging sheet.
- 404.2 During extreme weather conditions or situations, the judge may ring the bell and interrupt the test. The athlete should return to complete his test when conditions permit. The starting point for scoring will be from the point where the test became seriously disturbed at the discretion of the Judge or Ground Jury.

405 LAYOUT OF DRESSAGE ARENAS

Dressage Arenas should be set out to the dimensions shown in Annexes D 2 and 3. Arenas should be level and separated from the public and other arenas by a distance of at least 10m and preferably 20m. Barriers should be used where necessary, to prevent intrusion by other athletes or the public.

406 PERIMETER MARKING AND ENTRANCE OF THE ARENA

The perimeter of the arena may be marked in the following ways:

406.1 By a continuous surround of solid white boards approx. 30 cm high.

406.2 By a white line painted on the ground, or poles all around.

406.3 By intermittent white boards/poles placed at each corner and marker.

406.4 Ropes should not be used. If unavoidable the arena should be marked by a rope supported on pins, providing sufficient support to ensure the rope is taut. Corner pins should be provided, if rope is used, it is recommended that poles be laid at the corners, **by the entrance/exit** and by the markers.

406.5 The rails of the fence should be such as to prevent the horse's hooves from being caught in the perimeter surround.

406.6 A part of the surround, 1.00 m. each side of the centreline at A should be easy to remove as an entrance/exit gate, to let the athlete in and out of the arena. When the arena is delineated by a white line, two pegs may be placed 1.00 m. on either side of the centreline at A to designate the entrance/exit.

406.7 The centreline will not be mown or marked in any way.

407 LETTERS

407.1 The letters must be placed as indicated in Annexes D 2 and D 3. The letters outside **the perimeter must be in a straight line**, about 50 cm from the arena perimeter and clearly marked.

407.2 The marker at A must be placed far enough back, 10 m if possible, to allow the horses to enter on a straight line.

408 PLACEMENT OF JUDGES

If there is only one Judge, he must sit at the prolongation of the centre line at C. A second Judge may be placed at E or B. A third Judge may be placed opposite the second Judge. If five Judges the remaining two will be placed on the short side nearest M and H.

409 INSPECTION OF THE ARENA

It is the ultimate responsibility of the President of the Jury or the Judge at C to check that the arena is satisfactory and to have it modified if necessary.

410 DRAW, STARTING TIMES AND LATE STARTING

410.1 A draw for the order of going may be made by the SOC or on a **Declaration Sheet** at the office. Alterations to this draw may only be made with the approval of the Technical Delegate [TD] or Chief Steward or the Show Office.

410.2 If the draw includes starting times, the athlete is not obliged to start his test early but may do if invited to do so by the Judge.

410.3 If an athlete will be unable to start at his appointed time, he must report to the Judge prior to his start time. Failure to do so may result in elimination. The Judge has sole discretion to decide if the athlete may start late and at what time. NB Eventing Rule 510.4 where an athlete **MUST** start at his designated time.

411 DISABLED ATHLETES

Any athlete with a disability, which prevents him from riding the test in accordance with the Rules should apply to the Secretary of the SOC for a Special Dispensation Certificate. Before entering the arena, the athlete or his representative must show the Certificate to the Judge.

412 CALLERS / COMMANDERS FOR TESTS

412.1 All athletes may use a caller / **commander in all tests except those run under FEI Rules**. It is the responsibility of the athlete to ensure the caller reads out **only the movements as** printed on the text of the test therefrom and gives no other form of assistance.

412.2 Failure to observe this Rule may entail elimination.

413 TRAINING IN THE ARENA

On penalty of elimination, no horse, either ridden or led, may enter any arena other than a practice arena except when actually competing, unless otherwise directed by the Judge [62.15].

414 WARMING UP

414.1 All other athletes must stay sufficiently clear of the arena at all times while an athlete is riding his test so as not to interfere with a the performance of the test being judged. An athlete may warm up around the outside of the arena either after the preceding athlete has left the arena or when there is no one using the arena. **This may not be for more than 10 minutes before the time he is due to start his test and applies to both before or during the course of his competition.**

414.2 Should the situation of the arena make it impossible to ride around the outside before the Judge's signal to enter is sounded, the Judge or Steward will instruct the athlete to warm up inside the arena.

414.3 In Horse and Pony Elementary Tests and higher tests it is not permitted to carry a whip in the arena or immediate surrounds of the arena warming up before the test begins. The judge will instruct the athlete to drop the whip and a penalty of -2 will be deducted. **This procedure and penalty also applies if the athlete enters the arena carrying a whip.**

415 ENTERING THE ARENA

415.1 The athlete must wait before entering the arena, until the Judge has signified by a bell or an alternative signal that he may start. Failure to do so will lead to a penalty of – 2 or starting before the bell may lead to elimination.

415.2 Any horse that fails to enter the arena within 45 seconds following the signal to start has been given will be eliminated.

415.3 A horse entering the arena wearing boots or bandages will be stopped by the judge, the leg-wear removed and a penalty of -2 marks deducted.. If unnoticed by the judge and there is no objection **lodged by another athlete in the competition, his P.R. or an Official**, there will be no penalty.

416 DURATION OF THE TEST

A test begins with the entry at A and ends after the salute at the end of the test as soon as the horse moves forward. Any incidents before the beginning or after the end of the test will have no effect on the marks **except as 421.**

417 SALUTE

417.1 All athletes must take the reins and whip, if carried, in one hand when saluting. Athletes will drop the other hand down by their side and bow with their heads only.

417.2 Male athletes are not required to remove their headgear during the salute.

418 EXECUTION OF THE TESTS

418.1 All movements must follow in the order laid down in the test.

418.2 When a movement must be carried out at a certain point in the arena, it should be executed at the moment when the athlete's body is above that point. Excepted is in movements where the horse approaches the letter from a diagonal or perpendicular to the point where the letter is positioned. In this case the transitions should be done when the horse's nose reaches the track at the letter so that the horse is straight in the transition.

418.3 An athlete is not allowed to repeat a movement or put in an extra circle or loop unless the Judge decides that an error of course has been made and sounds the bell or other signal. If the athlete completes a movement and tries to do the same movement again, only the first execution of the movement will count for scoring and the Judge or Jury must impose the penalty for an Error of Course.

418.4 In all tests up to and including Elementary, transitions may be progressive except where stated otherwise on the test sheet. If "Simple Change" is stipulated, the transition may not be progressive.

418.5 All tests will be ridden with both hands, except where stated otherwise on the test sheet or in Freestyle to Music (Kur) tests.

419 SITTING OR RISING TROT IN TESTS

419.1 For Preliminary and Novice Dressage Tests, all trot work may be executed sitting or rising unless specifically instructed otherwise on the test sheet. Failure to follow this directive will be penalised in the movement mark by - 2.

419.2 For tests of Elementary and above, all trot work must be executed sitting unless otherwise instructed on the test.

420 DISMOUNTING

If an athlete dismounts after entering the arena without a reason acceptable to the Judge, no marks (0) will be given for the movement [162.5].

421 FALL

A fall of an athlete and/or his horse from the time of the signal to start is given for the athlete to begin his test until the horse and athlete complete the final halt will incur elimination [1007, 1101 - 1102].

422 LOSS OF HEADGEAR DURING TEST

The loss of the headgear during the test incurs a penalty of -2. The headgear may be handed back but must be replaced before continuing the test [420].

423 LEAVING THE ARENA DURING A TEST

423.1 If a horse is considered by the Judge or Jury to be out of control at any point in the test and leaves the arena, it will be eliminated.

423.2 If the surround of the arena is 25cm or higher, a horse leaving the arena during a test with all four feet will be eliminated.

423.3 If the surround is less than 25 cm a horse leaving the arena during a test with all four feet, will receive no marks (0) for the movement(s).

423.4 If the entrance/exit gate is open and the horse leaves through the gate it will receive no marks (0) for the movement.

423.5 If the arena is marked by a line only or intermittent boards or ropes, it is left to the discretion of the Judge or Jury as to the number of marks to be deducted for leaving the arena.

423.6 If the horse steps out of the arena with less than all four feet, it is left to the discretion of the judge as to the number of marks to be deducted for that movement each time it occurs.

423.7 After completing the test, the athlete must leave the arena at A.

424 USE OF VOICE DURING A TEST

The use of an athlete's voice is not permitted and will be penalised by the loss of two marks (-2) for each occurrence. The Judge will indicate use of voice in the remarks column of the movement in which it occurred, and the total penalties for use of voice will be deducted from the total score.

425 RESISTANCE

Any horse refusing to continue the test for a period of 20 consecutive seconds during the course of the test shall be eliminated. Resistance that may endanger the athlete, horse, Judges or the public will incur elimination for safety reasons earlier than within 20 seconds.

426 OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE

Any outside help by voice, sign etc. is considered forbidden as unauthorised assistance to an athlete or to his horse. An athlete or horse receiving unauthorized assistance must be eliminated [412].

427 ERROR OF COURSE

427.1 An athlete is judged to have made an error of course when he departs from the direction or pace laid down in the test. For this purpose, the Judge will signify a mistake by ringing the bell or as 418.3. The Judge will show him, if necessary the point at which he must take up the test again and the next movement to be executed. The decision as to whether or not an error of course has been made will be decided by the Judge at C and any other Judge's scores adjusted accordingly.

427.2 Every error, including every omission and every movement taken in the wrong order, must be penalised, whether rectified or not, as follows:

First Error resulting in ringing of the bell [418.3]	2 marks
Second error resulting in ringing of bell [418.3]	4 marks
Third error resulting in ringing of bell [418.3]	Elimination.

427.3 In the case of an athlete starting to ride the wrong test, he will be asked to start the test again and will be penalised as for a first error of course.

427.4 If the Judge for any reason does not realise until after the athlete has left the arena that one or more movements has been omitted he must adjust his marks and comments on the score sheet as necessary to accord with the movements actually performed. He will give to each of the movements not executed a mark equal to the average of the collective marks (averaged to half a mark) and he will deduct the appropriate penalty for error(s) of course.

428 ERROR OF TEST

428.1 If a athlete makes a small error such as size of figures, commencing or completing a movement not near the marker or at the wrong marker, or sitting or rising incorrectly, which does not affect the subsequent performance of the test, and sounding the bell or signal, would unnecessarily impede the flow of the performance the Judge will not sound the bell but will note the “**Error of Test**” and deduct 2 marks from what would otherwise have been scored for the movement.

428.2 Such errors incur a deduction of –2 for each error in the movement score box with an appropriate comment in the remarks column.

429 UNNOTICED ERRORS

If the Judge has not noted an error, the athlete will receive the benefit of the doubt [427.4].

430 LAMENESS DURING TESTS

430.1 If a horse is so obviously lame or unfit to compete, that in the opinion of the Judge or Ground Jury it ought not be asked to complete the test, the horse will be eliminated. There is no appeal possible for an elimination of this kind for that competition.

430.2 The judge must write on the test sheet that the horse has been eliminated as obviously lame or “unfit to compete” and inform the show office. The horse must be inspected by the Veterinary Officer, or in the case of his being unavailable a Veterinary Panel [1001], before being allowed to take part in any further phase or competition at the show. The judge must inform the athlete that the horse is required to be inspected [1006].

430.3 If a Judge and/or the Ground Jury is in doubt as to the soundness or condition of a horse, the athlete will be allowed to complete the test and any unevenness of pace will be penalised. The Judge may require the horse to be inspected by the Veterinary Officer and/or a Veterinary Ground Jury before being allowed to take part in any further phase or competition at the show and must inform the show office. The judge must inform the athlete if his horse is required to be inspected.

430.4 Refusal to undergo such an inspection entails elimination and may incur disqualification of both horse and athlete [62.4].

Rules 431 – 434 in abeyance

435 MARKING OF TESTS

435.1 The scale of marks is as follows:

10 Excellent	7 Fairly Good	4 Insufficient	1 Very Bad
9 Very Good	6 Satisfactory	3 Fairly Bad	0 Not Executed
8 Good	5 Sufficient	2 Bad	

435.2 Half marks from 0.5 – 9.5 may be used for Movements and Collectives.

435.3 The marks of 0 through 10 must be awarded as warranted by the performance at the discretion of a single Judge or members of a Ground Jury.

435.4 A mark of 0 for 'Not Executed' means that nothing which was required in the movement was performed.

435.5 A full explanation of marking is given in the HAK Dressage Test Book.

436 SCORING OF TESTS

436.1 All movements, transitions and the collective marks, which have to be given a mark, are numbered on the Judge's test sheet and must be marked in the appropriate box from 0 to 10. Marks with a co-efficient are multiplied appropriately. All marks awarded are added together to give a score.

436.2 All penalty marks are deducted from the total to give the final score. If there is more than one Judge, the final scores of each judge are added together and averaged for the final score.

436.3 In the case of equality of final scores, the collective marks are added together and the horse with the higher collective marks shall take the higher placing. If the total collective marks are equal, the horses concerned shall be tied for the win or placing.

436.4 Scores should be also be shown as a percentage wherever possible, by dividing the marks awarded by the total marks possible for the test and multiplying by 100.

437 DRESSAGE TEST SCORE SHEETS

437.1 Each Judge must complete one score sheet for each horse judged.

437.2 Corrections on the sheets, particularly to any change of mark, must be initialled by the Judge.

437.3 There is a column for the Judge's remarks, where as far as possible he should state the reason for his judgement. Giving remarks is strongly recommended for marks of 5 and under.

437.4 The SOC is not obliged to make public any scores other than the total marks and the results, unless the total marks are equal in which case the collective marks must be shown.

437.5 The Judge's Score Sheets **may** be distributed to the athletes as soon as possible after the official results for a competition have been made public. If the score of the test is also being used as a score for a phase of another competition, the sheets will be withheld until that competition is completed.

438 DRESSAGE JUDGES

438.1 All Dressage Judges at HAK competitions must be members of the HAK Panel of Dressage Judges or Candidate Judges. A Chairman of the Dressage Panel will be appointed by the Dressage Working Group in consultation with the SOC for each show offering Dressage competitions. He or his representative will be responsible for appointing a Judge or Judges for each competition. He will be the Dressage representative on the Jury of Appeal of that show.

438.2 A Chief Scribe will be appointed by the SOC. The Chief Scribe will assign scribes to each Judge or member of the Jury for each competition [115.3.9].

438.3 A competition may be judged by a single Judge or by a Jury of two, three or five Judges. A single Judge must always sit at C in the Jury Box. **All judges must have a suitable judging venue: a jury box, tent, car or trailer under cover.**

438.4 If no Judge is available, a Candidate Judge may be permitted to judge a test but the results will not count for Grading Points.

438.5 A Judge may judge both a Riding Test and a Dressage Test on the same day, provided the Judge agrees to do so.

438.6 Judges from overseas who are on a recognized panel may be invited by the HAK Technical Committee to officiate at Dressage Competitions.

438.7 As an additional Responsibility the Guidelines are: Dressage Judges must be receptive to discuss any test and/or score sheet with any athlete he has judged. It is a responsibility of Judges to help athletes when they wish to improve their performance by understanding the marks and marks of the test or errors made during a test.

Rules 439 – 449 in abeyance

ANNEX D I ~ DRESSAGE JUDGE'S PROMOTION:

Parameters for application to be a Candidate Judge and the protocol for promotion of Judges will be defined and published by the HAK Dressage and Technical Committees and available on application to the HAK office.

D.I.1 CANDIDATE DRESSAGE JUDGES

1. Applicants must fill in the Candidate Judge's form and take in their own time an open book, multiple choice test to hand in with their application.
2. Practical experience will include scribing, seminars and workshops. Previous experience will be taken into account. Each Candidate will have a Log Book in which to record attendance and participation at practical sessions.
3. After initial practice, Candidate Judge's will "Shadow Judge", marking tests in competition on their own. The results and comments will be assessed by a senior HAK Judge or where possible a visiting International Judge.
4. Candidates will be asked to take a short test on Rules, theory and Dressage terms. Candidates fulfilling all the above in a satisfactory way will be promoted to the Candidate Judge's Panel.

D.I.2 PROMOTION OF DRESSAGE JUDGES

1. Candidate Judges will repeat 2, 3, and 4 for promotion to full Judge.
2. Judge's on the Panel wishing promotion to more advanced levels will repeat the steps for promotion at the appropriate level for promotion on the Dressage Judge's Panel at a higher standard.

NOTES:

COMBINED TRAINING RULES

450 DEFINITION OF COMBINED TRAINING

A Combined Training (Dressage with Jumping) competition is of one athlete/horse combination consisting of a Dressage phase conducted under HAK Dressage Rules **and a Jumping Phase, conducted under Jumping Rule 238.1 with Eventing Jumping phase scoring [556].**

451 COMBINED TRAINING COMPETITIONS AND ELIGIBILITY

Competitions are organised at specified levels of difficulty, by standard of Dressage Test and height of obstacles as in C.T. Annex I.

451.1 Pre-Novice: for horses/ponies, which have have zero (0) Grading Points and have not won 2 Pre-Novice Combined Training competitions.

451.2 Novice: for horses/ponies with less than 24 grading points.

451.3 Intermediate: for horses/ponies with less than 80 grading points.

451.4 Open: for all horses/ponies.

451.5 Championship: for horses/ponies with 24 or more grading points.

451.6 Handicaps: In the case of insufficient entries for a particular category, Combined Training competitions may be run as handicap competitions with the higher graded horses doing the lower Dressage test but the jumping phase being at their normal grade height and speed.

452 COMBINED TRAINING - TIMING OF PHASES

The Dressage Phase should be held before the Jumping Phase. If the timetable necessitates that the Jumping Phase is held first, this must be the same for all athletes and no athlete shall be required to perform the Dressage Phase until at least one hour after completing the Jumping Phase.

453 COMBINED TRAINING - JUMPING COURSES

The Jumping Phase will consist of one round of a course of 8 to 12 numbered obstacles, including at least one combination.

454 COMBINED TRAINING PENALTIES

454.1 Penalties for the Dressage Phase are as laid down in the Dressage Rules.

454.2 Penalties for the Jumping Phase are as laid down in **the Jumping Phase Rules for Eventing [556].**

455 COMBINED TRAINING SCORING

455.1 The marks for the Dressage Phase are totalled exactly as according to Dressage Rules. Any penalties incurred in the Jumping Phase are deducted from the marks awarded for the Dressage Phase to give the final score.

455.2 If the final score gives equality of marks, the athlete with the highest marks for the Dressage Phase is placed higher. If there is still equality, the fastest time in the Jumping Phase will determine the final results of wins and placings.

456 COMBINED TRAINING JUDGES:

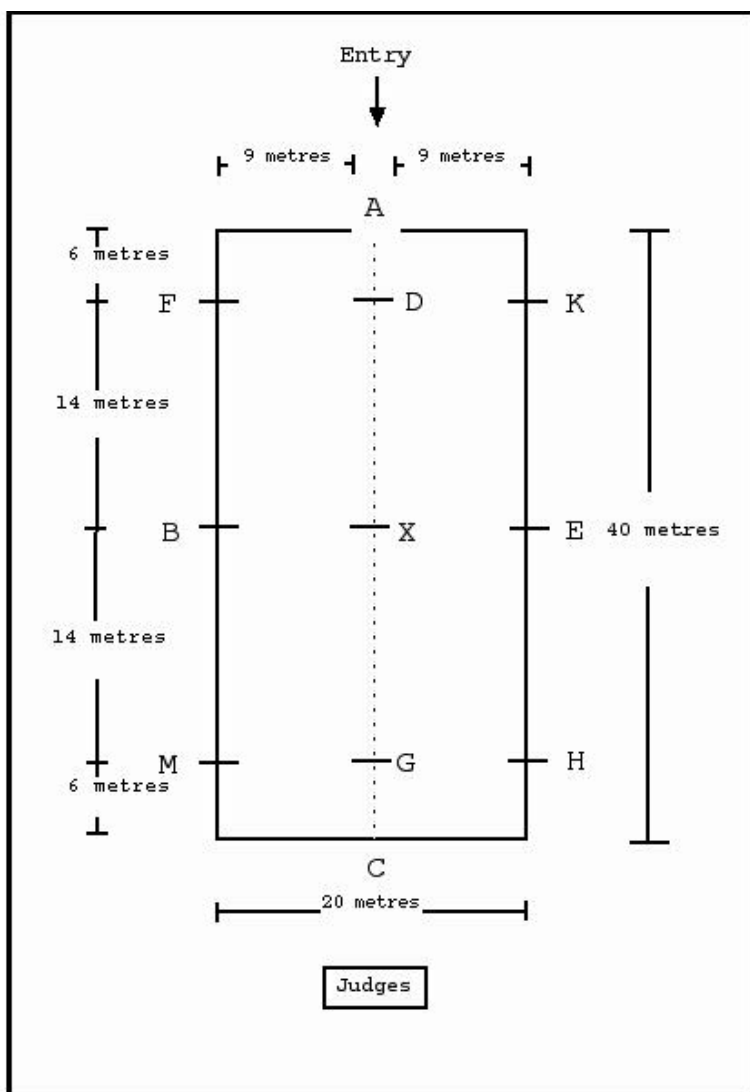
A Combined Training competition must be judged by at least one Dressage Judge from the HAK Panel in Phase I and by at least one Jumping Judge from the HAK Panel in Phase II.

Rules 457 – 499 in abeyance

ANNEX C.T. I - TESTS AND JUMPING PHASE OBSTACLES

(Dimensions of Obstacles in Metres)

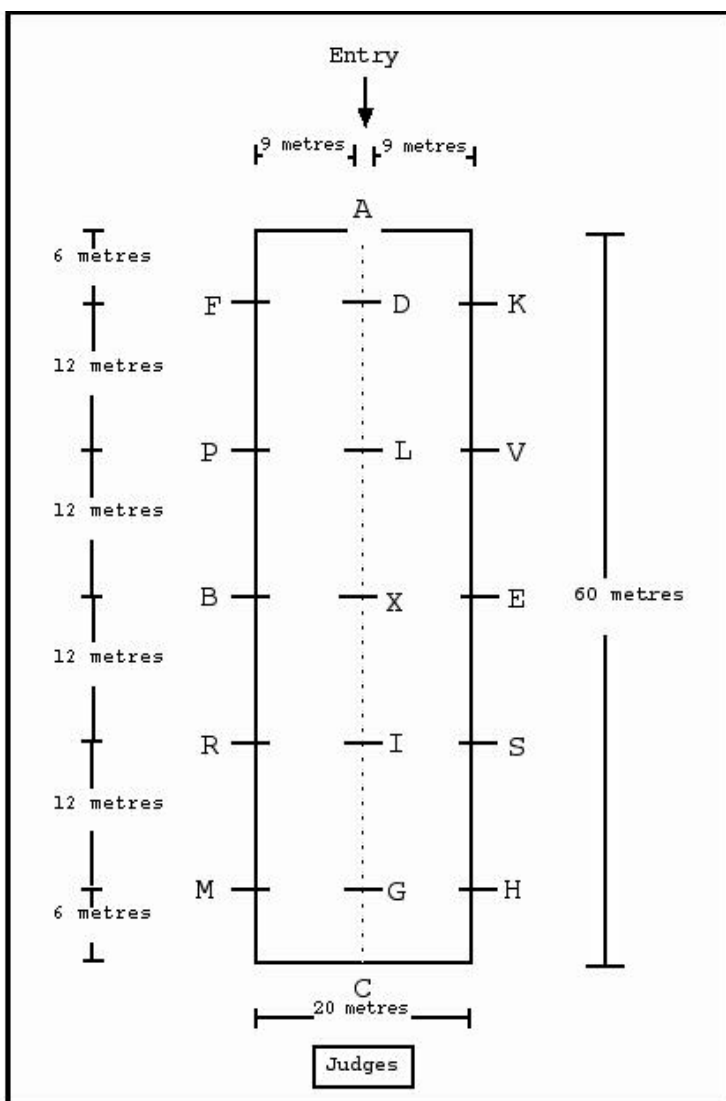
Class	Test	Height	Width	Triple Bar	Combinations	Speed
Horse Competitions						
Pre-Novice	Preliminary	0.70	0.80	1.00	1 Double	300
Novice	Preliminary	0.80	0.90	1.10	1 Double	300
Intermediate	Novice B	0.90	1.05	1.30	2 Doubles or 1 Double and 1 Treble	325
Open	Novice A	1.00	1.15	1.40	2 Doubles or 1 Double and 1 Treble	325
Championship	Simple Elementary	1.10	1.25	1.50	2 Doubles or 1 Double and 1 Treble	325
Pony Competitions						
Pre-Novice	Pony Novice	0.60	0.70	0.90	1 Double (Vert. > Vert.) recommended	250
Under 12	Riding Test	0.70	0.80	1.00	1 Double	300
Novice	Pony Novice	0.70	0.80	1.00	1 Double	300
Intermediate	Pony Intermediate	0.80	0.90	1.10	2 Doubles or 1 Double and 1 Treble	300
Open	Pony Open	0.90	1.05	1.30	2 Doubles or 1 Double and 1 Treble	325
Liverpool obstacles are permitted, Water Jumps are not permitted in any C.T. competition.						



ANNEX D 2 Rule 405

**Plan of 40 metre x 20 metre
Dressage Arena**

(The length of the diagonal corner to corner is 44.7 m)
(The length of the diagonal of a 20 m.square is 28.3 m)



Annex D 3 Rule 405

**Plan of 60 metre x 20 metre
Dressage Arena**

(The length of the diagonal corner to corner is 63.25m)