

COMPETITION FAQs

HOT WEATHER POLICY - note that the temperature has been downgraded from 1.1.23. Adelaide Hills Dressage Club will automatically **CANCEL** events if:

- **The forecast for the Strathalbyn area on the BOM app on the Friday before an event is for a temperature of 35° C or above, OR**
- The CFS advises there will be Catastrophic fire conditions in the Mt Lofty Ranges for the day of an event, OR
- At the discretion of the AHDC Committee if there is a sudden increase in temperature on Saturday night's forecast after a suitable Friday night forecast.

At all Competitive competitions, ALL RIDERS (Competitive, Closed Unrestricted and Participant) must Gear Check AFTER EACH TEST. Failure to Gear Check = Elimination. There is no Gear Checking required at Closed Unrestricted competitions.

Refer to Section 5 (page 54) of the 2024 Equestrian Australia Dressage Rules for permitted dress and equipment (including permitted saddles, bridles etc). Copy and paste this link to your browser:

[CLEAN NATIONAL DRESSAGE RULES 1 JANUARY 2024.pdf \(equestrian.org.au\)](https://www.equestrian.org.au/clean-national-dressage-rules-1-january-2024.pdf)

What classes can I enter?

- **Competitive: You MUST be a Competitive member of EA.** Your horse must be registered and have a current Competition Licence (previously called Performance Card). Grading points can be accrued and recorded.
- **Participant:** you MUST be a Competitive OR Participant member of EA. Your horse does not need to be registered nor does it need a current Competition Licence. Grading points are NOT accrued.
- **Closed Unrestricted: you MUST be a member of AHDC or EA.** However if you only have EA membership you cannot compete at Elementary level or above in Closed Unrestricted classes without being a member of AHDC. (Text Sally (Secretary) on 0429 190 653 for further information). No grading points are accrued at this level. AHDC members will have Member Discounts applied automatically by Nominate at the final stages of entry.

If you are not a member of either EA or AHDC Nominate will ask you to join AHDC. Go to the Clubs area of Nominate and click on Join A Club. Click "Join" on the Adelaide Hills Dressage Club line. Click on the drop down box where it says Membership Category. Do membership BEFORE attempting to enter a competition.

Day membership is for people to "come and try" before becoming a full member or for those bringing a horse out to experience a competition day. Type the date of the competition so Nominate knows what day you will be a member for.

You may do Day Membership twice in a calendar year but after that we request that you join our Club for 6 or 12 months. As part of the joining fee there is a \$50 levy which is refundable when you assist us with a full day's pencilling. A family member or friend can assist on your behalf.

- Pony classes are open classes – both adults and youth riders are judged together (no separate divisions). Youth classes are for riders aged 10-21 years (from 8 years for Pony riders). A Youth riding a Pony may compete in either Youth or Pony classes (but not both categories on the same day).
- **Please read the "Why We Won't Change The Draw" link on the draw page: <http://www.ahdc.net.au/draw.html> BEFORE you ask for a change to your draw. Some exceptions for emergency circumstances.**
- On arrival Check in at the Desk so we know you intend to ride.
- Notify Draw Secretary if scratching – text 0400 289 481.
- Horses must have their bridle number displayed on both sides of a halter, saddle blanket or bridle at all times - except when in a stable.
- Current Covid Restrictions in place at the time apply.
- The EA Concussion Rule applies if a Rider has a fall.
- From 1 July 2022 helmets must be tagged to show they are a current approved safety standard. No tag on an unapproved helmet = ELIMINATION. Approved helmets are listed in the 2024 Dressage Rules (Section 5.2).
- Lunging is not permitted near or within arenas. Please lunge in or adjacent to the Pony Club sand arena, or near the front roadway.
- Do not congregate near arena entrances in the way of other Competitors about to start their test when you have finished yours.
- If you wish to have your test emailed, please email the Secretary: wellsy1964@bigpond.com. Tests are no longer automatically emailed.
- You may have your tests called at competitions, except at the Spring Festival.
- **Formal dress for Competitive classes. Plaiting is desirable but not compulsory. Jackets may be removed if a rider feels overheated. Neat casual dress for Participant / Closed Unrestricted, plaiting and jackets are optional.**

If you have any other questions, please text the Secretary (Sally) on 0429 190 653 or email pretzel308@gmail.com.