

Dressage Tournament Rules

These rules are not applicable to Combined Drive Trials

1. Tests to be those in the N.Z.C.D.S. Rule Book; these can be added to with any test that has been approved by the Council of the N.Z.C.D.S.
2. Dressage grading cards for an individual horse or pony will be issued by the Dressage Grading Officer on application by a driver.
3. Grading cards must be returned to the Dressage Grading Officer at the end of each season to be checked and signed off for the coming season.
4. Entries at a Graded Dressage Tournament will not be accepted unless the grading card has been signed off for the season and entry forms must have the horse or pony's grading registration number on them.
5. Dressage tests may be called at all levels except in Championship Classes, the caller (groom) must be seated on the carriage or gig.
6. In Non-Championship Classes ponies under 108cm may have the caller standing at the side of the arena.
7. At Graded Dressage Competitions non-registered horses or ponies may only compete in a non-graded Training Level Class.
8. The number of tests driven per grading day to be open, dependent on the organizers and the number of entries.
9. There will be no cumulative or ultimate points prize.
10. The grades and points system is as follows:

57 – 59.99%	2 points
60 – 62.99%	3 points
63 – 66.99%	4 points
67% and above	5 points

Points required for upgrading:

Training	50
Preliminary	150
Intermediate	250

Points from each grade are carried forward to the next.

Turnouts will start in Training Grade

Having upgraded a turnout may not compete in a lower grade unless that turnout has not competed for one season. 7 points will take it back to the higher grade.

11. Judges score to be averaged, then percentaged, and the highest score wins.
12. For Championship Tests three Judges (at least two must be N.Z.C.D.S. list) must officiate. The highest score in each grade will become that grade's Champion. For grading days at least two Judges (minimum one N.Z.C.D.S. list) must officiate for each grade.
13. Competition grading days can be run at anytime culminating with the Championships which will be held annually in each Island. Non grading classes can be included in the schedule for such days.
14. Turnout to be formal and grooms optional except for multiples.
15. In Championship competitions, turnouts may compete only in their Grade. Upgrading during a Championship Tournament will not require upgrading for that event.
16. Voluntary Upgrading – A turnout may voluntarily upgrade at anytime, but having done so in writing to the Grading officer, that turnout may no longer compete in a lower grade. This includes Championship events.
17. Singles

On the purchase or lease of a graded animal the new turnout may go back to any grade the new owner wishes until it accumulates 7 grading points, whereupon it returns immediately to the pre-purchase grade.
18. Multiples

On the purchase of a graded animal and including that animal in a multiple hitch that animal will assume the turnout's current grade.
19. All graded tests, including Championship tests, are eligible to earn grading points.
20. Presentation is not scored.

N.Z.C.D.S. Dressage Manual is available from the Dressage Committee Convener, or can be downloaded from our website.

www.carriagedrivingnz.co.nz