

2023 (R1) Virtus Para Dressage Video Championships Rules and Regulations for British Entries

SportExcel UK and RDA working together to enable selection to the Championships

Please read the full selection policy alongside these Rules and Regulations.

Entry Date:

1. Videos must be received at SportExcel UK no later than **midday on 23rd March 2023** (GMT).
2. To validate that all tests have been recorded in the qualifying period please show a newspaper with the date clearly visible at the beginning of your recordings. The qualifying period for GB competitors is 4th October 2022 to midday on 23rd March 2023 (GMT).
3. This is an invitation only event. Only GB riders who competed in either the 2021 or 2022 Virtus Para Dressage Video Championships or have at the discretion and decision of the SSC met standards elsewhere commensurate to that of a rider at this level.
4. Results will be published by Virtus as soon as possible from the end of March 2023.
5. SportExcel UK will inform British competitors of their results once published.
6. This is the first of two championships in 2023. Riders who compete in both round 1 and round 2 can vie for the annual champion status.

Tests:

7. All GB riders are expected to compete in the 'Performance level' category established by Virtus. There is no age limit in the performance level category.
8. Performance level riders can choose one or two of the tests. The tests will be judged separately. ***British riders are encouraged to compete in and provide videos in both tests.***
9. In all tests the Halt in the first movement is skipped. These are:
 - FEI Grade 4 Introductory Test B (2018)
 - FEI Grade 4 Novice A (2009)
10. For inclusion in the Team competition, riders must provide videos of both tests. Teams are made up of three riders. If there are more than three riders, the

scores of the best three riders' count. Teams of three must have at least 2 riders in classes II1 and/or II2.

Arena:

11. An outdoor arena is preferred, 20 x 40m. If an indoor arena is used, *it must* provide enough space for proper video recording.

Rules:

12. This event is organised in accordance with the Virtus Para Dressage Rules, March 2022 available at www.Virtus.sport and in accordance with the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse.
13. Horses and ponies can be ridden by more than one rider, but not more than two riders in a team.
14. Videos of tests may not be entered if they have already been judged at a competition. If a video is suspected to have been taken at a competition, the rider will be disqualified. Riders are encouraged to wear regular competition outfit. The horse must wear bandages.
15. A commander is allowed. Please refer to the Virtus rule book.
16. The decision of the Virtus judges is final.

Filming

17. The person filming must stand behind C as far as possible but will have to zoom in when the rider is at A.
18. The video must be taken in landscape format in one shot. No cuts allowed. The whole horse must be seen at all times.
19. Sound must be recorded to make sure no coaching is taking place during the test. Riders are not allowed to wear earphones.
20. The video must be clear and in focus. Please follow this guidance:
 - Use a tripod or stand where possible to reduce motion.
 - Minimise background noise and interruption
 - Be aware of sunlight or spotlights to avoid glare
 - Videos must be saved in MPEG or MOV format
21. *Virtus has advised that poor quality videos may lead to disqualification.*

Virtus Judges and Awards:

22. Entries will be judged by 2 or 3 FEI Para Dressage judges.

23. Riders placed in rank 1 to 6 in individual events will be provided with rosettes and a certificate showing their rank and score. There will be no prize money given out.
24. For the Team competition, the riders of the first three nations placed highest will receive rosettes. Only the 3 riders making up team entry from those three nations will receive rosettes.
25. Any awards given by Virtus to British riders will be sent to SportExcel UK for distribution.

Dress and Tack:

26. Competition gear should be worn as stated in the FEI Para Dressage Rules, but riders may wear Jodhpur boots and black or brown half chaps. Gloves must be worn.

Bridles and Tack:

27. Double bridles are allowed; however, snaffle bridles are preferred.
28. No auxiliary reins are allowed. Use of auxiliary reins will lead to disqualification.
29. The horses must wear bandages.
30. For the use of spurs, whips and compensating aids please refer to the Virtus Para Dressage Rules.
<https://www.virtus.sport/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/7.12-Sport-and-Virtus-Event-Specification-Equestrian-2020.doc.pdf>

Errors

31. Errors will be handled as stated on the test sheet.

GB Entry Criteria:

32. Riders and coaches must read the full Selection Policy.
33. Entries must be made through SportExcel UK, the Virtus member.

Entry Fees:

34. A fee of £102 per British rider is required.
35. Payment should be made via internet banking to SportExcel UK (or UK Sports Association, UKSAPLD or UKSA). Account 71594567, Sort 40-04-09, using the competitors name and sport as a reference.

36. Payment must reach SportExcel UK at the same time as the rider accepts the invitational entry or video submission date, whichever is sooner.

37. Entry Fees will not be refunded once an entry has been accepted by Virtus.

Acceptance:

38. Accepting an invitation to enter constitutes acceptance of the rules, regulations, and selection process, including full acceptance of the Virtus Dressage rules.

39. Accepting an invitation to enter also means the rider is agreeing to Virtus and SportExcel UK using pictures and videos in marketing and promotion such as press releases, social media, and websites.

Errors:

40. Errors will be handled as stated on the Virtus test sheet.

Submitting Video Entries:

41. To submit your entry please contact SportExcel UK. Please allow plenty of time to ensure any technical issues for upload are dealt with in good time and by the GB deadline of **noon 23rd March 2023**.

42. SportExcel UK will upload GB Competitor Videos to Virtus no later than midnight (GMT) on 27th March 2023.

Disclaimer: The SportExcel UK Sport and Selection Committee reserve the right to review and revise the Selection Policy and 2023 Rules and Regulations relating to entries to the Championships based on information available to them at any given time.

IMPORTANT COVID-19 GUIDANCE: At all times, SportExcel UK advises riders and their support networks who may be interested in this event, to follow current Government rules, restrictions and medical advice around COVID-19. These rules should be followed at all times and for however long the Government and medical advisers think necessary. The safety of riders, supporters and staff at local centres is of paramount importance.

We reserve the right to cancel or postpone the Championships and any entries should the need to do so arise based on the best medical and governmental advice available at any given time.

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