



**EQUESTRIAN
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**2026 PARA DRESSAGE VIDEO COMPETITION SERIES
COMPETITOR GUIDELINES**

Bringing the Competition to You!



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SECTION 1: ABOUT THE PARA DRESSAGE VIDEO COMPETITIONS

What are Para Dressage Video Competitions?

Para Dressage Video Competitions provide riders of all levels and abilities with the opportunity to experience competition conditions in the comfort of their home stable and on a familiar horse. Participants compete against riders with similar abilities nationwide by submitting videos that are judged by Equestrian Canada (EC) certified dressage Judges.

Video Competitions encourage riders to develop effective skills and provide an opportunity to compete in a progressive and structured environment. The Para Dressage Video Competitions are a fantastic way to ensure that all riders across Canada, no matter how geographically isolated, have the chance to compete. Competition is an integral part of rider development and provides riders with new goals, as well as a sense of empowerment and accomplishment.

You are encouraged to read thoroughly these guidelines, including how to determine a competitor's division and division level, class rules, judging considerations, and video requirements.

To participate, para dressage riders must first record a video taken of themselves performing a specific test then log in to the EC online portal at https://licence.equestrian.ca/pec_video to complete the registration process and submit the appropriate entry fees.

The results from each leg of the series will be posted on the EC website at [www.equestrian.ca/sport/Para Dressage /programs](http://www.equestrian.ca/sport/ParaDressage/programs). Ribbons will be awarded to the top five riders per class. Each competitor will receive a copy of the judge's scores and comments for their test.

How much does it cost?

The cost is \$40.00 for the first class, with a 50% discount for each additional class entered..

Who is eligible to enter?

All riders, whether or not they currently meet EC/FEI classification guidelines, are welcome to compete in the Para Dressage Video Competition Series. Riders must review the Division description to ensure they meet the eligibility requirements for their chosen Division.

Para Dressage Video Competition Dates

There are four legs of the Video Competition Series. All individuals who wish to participate must have their entries submitted to EC's [online portal](#) by 11:59 p.m. EST on the day of the deadline. Please reference the Para Dressage Programs page of the EC website at [www.equestrian.ca/sport/Para Dressage /programs](http://www.equestrian.ca/sport/ParaDressage/programs) for the list of submission deadlines.

Para Dressage Competition Ribbons



Due to increasing mailing and courier costs, we will be implementing alternative methods for distributing competition ribbons and test sheets for the 2026 season.

- Ribbons will be distributed after the first two competitions and at the end of the season.
- Judge's score sheet will be e-mailed the rider and coach upon completion of each competition.
- Division 6 competitors will receive feedback on their video entry from EC High Performance Technical Advisor within 2 – 3 weeks after competition.
- Results will be announced within 2 -3 weeks after the competition deadline.

Para Dressage Video Competition High Point Champion

Any rider who has participated in a minimum of three competitions and in the same division during the current year is eligible for the Para Dressage High Point Championships.

Points are awarded based on placings within each division. At the end of the year, points will be totaled for those that meet the requirements and the Champions for each division will be acknowledged with a prize.

Points are awarded as follows:

- Five (5) points for first place
- Four (4) points for second place
- Three (3) points for third place
- Two (2) points for fourth place
- One (1) point for fifth place

Para Dressage Video Competition Riding Centre High Point Championships

A riding centre that has entered riders in a minimum of three competitions during the current year is eligible to be considered for the High Point Riding Centre Championships.

Points are awarded based on each eligible rider's placings within each division. At the end of the year, points will be added up and the Riding Centre Champions will be acknowledged with a prize.

Points are awarded as follows:

- Five (5) points for first place
- Four (4) points for second place
- Three (3) points for third place
- Two (2) points for fourth place
- One (1) point for fifth place



SECTION 2: RULES

Para Dressage Video Competition Entry Rules

The rules of the facility where the rider performs/videos their test apply, along with the following competition regulations:

Para Eligibility:

1. Riders must hold a current EC Sport Licence at the Bronze level or higher, with Dressage or Para Dressage listed as their primary discipline. Sport Licences can be renewed or purchased online through MyEC.
2. Riders may only compete in the classes within their designated division.
3. To ensure fair competition, riders should not enter a division below their technical skill level.

Para Dressage Video Competitions Eligible Test Submissions – Test Rules:

- Division 1: Riders may submit one technical test and one freestyle test per competition.
- Divisions 2, 3, 4, and 5: Riders may submit one technical test and one freestyle test per competition.
- Division 6: Riders may submit one test per class, up to three tests in total per competition.
- Divisions 7-8: Riders may submit one technical test and one freestyle test per competition.

Para Dressage Video Competitions - Horse, and Equipment Competition Rules:

1. Horses may wear wraps or boots.
2. Grazing nets/muzzles are NOT permitted.
3. Horses may be shared between competitors.

Para Dressage Video Competitions Horse & Rider Attire & Adaptive Equipment Rules

1. English tack must be used (dressage saddles and bridles are recommended but not mandatory). – Exception - #6 below
2. Adaptive equipment is allowed as required. Reference the list of FEI-approved compensating aids [here](#).
3. All equipment must be safe and comfortable for both horse and rider.
4. Riders must not be attached to the horse or saddle in any way that is deemed unsafe under [EC](#) and [FEI](#) Para Dressage rules.
5. Any English style saddle suited to the rider's needs is permitted.
6. Any surcingle suited to the rider's needs is ONLY permitted exclusively in Divisions 1 and 2.

Para Dressage Video Competitions Assistance & Coaching Competition Rules:

1. Assistance from coaches, leaders, or sidewalkers (e.g., verbal comments, physical prompts, sounds, gestures) will result in penalties, unless an approved compensating aid is being used (e.g., visually impaired rider living letters, advanced caller).
2. For visually impaired riders who are not classified and are using rider living letters, please inform EC at the time of entry so the official can be notified.



3. A maximum of four spotters may be strategically positioned outside the ring in the corner for independent riders. If indoor arena, they should be placed in a safe and appropriate location to avoid interfering with the test.
4. Coaches should not act as leaders or side walkers for their own rider, except when acting as an Advanced Caller (see compensating aid chart for details).

Compensating Aids

Riders with Physical Impairments may utilize the following Para Dressage compensating aids in Divisions 1 and 6.

Para Dressage Standard Compensating Aids

These are aids or equipment, separate from approved saddlery and equipment outlined in the FEI Dressage Rules, that may be used by riders across all functional profiles. All riders are permitted to use standard compensating aids. For reference, please consult reference the [FEI Para Dressage Compensating Aids Photo List](#)

Para Dressage Profile-Specific Compensating Aids

These aids are only permitted for classified riders who have their aids listed on the **EC Masterlist**.

Resources for coaches with riders who are not classified for compensating aids:

- [FEI Para Dressage Compensating Aids Guidelines](#)

Rules for Videoing Rider's Tests

To ensure consistency and fairness in video submissions for rider test evaluations, please use these guidelines when recording your video:

IMPORTANT – Submitted videos must be clear thereby ensuring all test movements are easily visible. Blurry footage or poor-quality videos may be rejected and will not be judged. In such cases, the rider may receive a credit for the next Para Dressage Video competition date.

Absolutely ensure you review your video entry fully prior to entry submission.

Should you have any questions on the video and it will be accepted, please send the video link to Jamie-Ann Goodfellow - Para Dressage Coordinator - jgoodfellow@equestrian.ca no later than the 5 days prior to the entry closing date.

The following video filming rules must be followed:



Area Size and Setup:

- Videos need to be recorded in an enclosed arena or ring with a minimum size of 18x36m (59x118ft) and a maximum size of 20x40m (66x131ft). If your arena/ring is larger, please mark off an area of this size so with letters in the correct positions. This will ensure competition environments are similar.
- Exception: FEI Individual (2017) Team, Individual and Freestyle Grade IV and Grade V tests should be performed in a 20m x 60m (66ft x 197ft) arena.

Camera Placement & Recording Angle:

- The camera must be placed on the centre line immediately in front of or behind 'C' at the far end of ring/arena facing 'A' at a height of approximately 1.5m-2.5m (5-8ft).
- The camera is to remain at this spot for the entire test. Set the camera so the whole horse remains in the frame for as much of the video as possible. Try to keep the horse in the centre of the frame and avoid zooming too far in or out.

Recording Start & End Time:

- Start recording 5 seconds before the rider enters the ring or before judging begins (for both indoor and outdoor arenas).
- End recording for 5 seconds after the last movement of the test or after the final salute, capturing a few steps of walk for the judges.

Lighting & Camera Quality:

- Always video with your back to the sun.
- Keep camera steady throughout the recording.
- Use a well-lit arena/ring and avoid sharp contrasts/shadows between light and dark areas.
- Use the highest quality setting on your recording device for the best clarity.

Ensuring Clear Visibility for Judges:

- The entire horse and rider should always be visible in the frame at all times.
- The video must clearly capture all movements within the test for the judge's assessment.
- Leaders and side walkers must not obstruct the view of the rider.

Freestyle to Music Classes:

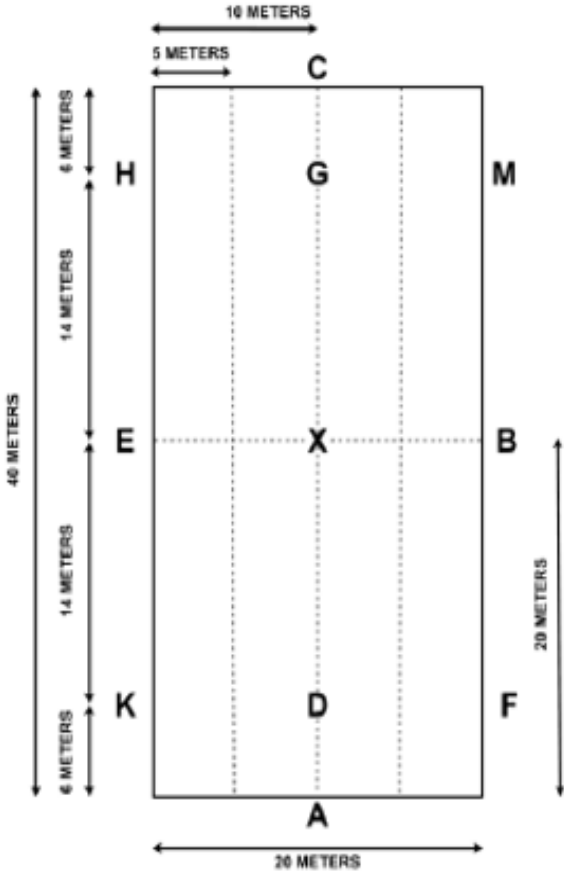
- The sound on the video recording device must be set in such a way that the music can be clearly heard in the video.
- These guidelines are essential to ensure a fair and accurate judging process. Please follow them carefully, as failure to do so may result in disqualification or rejection of your video submission.

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out before submitting your video.



Dressage Arena- Letter Placement Rules

Dressage tests take place in an arena with designed letters marking specific locations. The arena size and the letters used differ according to the test being performed

| 20x40m arena | 20x60m arena |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All EC tests• FEI tests for Grades I-III• Small dressage arenas should measure 20x40m (approximately 66x132ft). The outer letter markers must be clearly visible in the video.  | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FI tests for Grades IV-V• Dimensions for standard – or long – dressage arenas should be 20x60m (or approximately 66x197ft). Arena markers for the outer letters of the area must be clearly marked in the video. |



Rules for Leader, Side Walker, and Commander

General Guidelines:

- Riders are encouraged to compete at their highest level of capability this may mean having one leader and the fewest number of side walkers needed for support, maximum two.
- Leaders and side walkers should have minimal influence on the equine or rider. Any unnecessary influence, such as stopping, turning toward the equine, standing in front of the equine, or signaling to slow down or halt, will be penalized, except in emergencies.
- Any influence on the equine or rider by the leader or side walker will result in deductions:
 - A half-mark deduction for the first occurrence.
 - A one-mark deduction for all subsequent occurrences.

Leader Guidelines:

1. When side walkers are not used:
 - The leader must lead from the inside and switch sides in front of the equine during halt movements.
 - The leader must position themselves by the equine's shoulder, holding the lead rope at their outside hip with their outside hand, while keeping their inside hand flat at their side or across their belly to indicate no influence on the equine.
 - A slight loop should be visible in the lead rope to show that the leader is not affecting the equine's direction or pace.
2. When side walkers are used:
 - The leader must still lead from the inside and switch sides in front of the equine during halt movements.
 - Leaders must stand midway between the equine's shoulder and head, holding the lead rope at their outside hip with their outside hand while keeping their inside hand flat at their side or across their belly to indicate no influence on the equine.

Side Walker Guidelines:

1. A maximum of two side walkers (one on each side) may be used if necessary.
2. Side walkers must position themselves beside the rider's leg and be able to comfortably walk while providing physical support for the rider at the thigh, hip, or knee as needed.
3. Side walkers must not:
 - Give verbal instruction to the rider.
 - Assist the rider in any way beyond necessary support.
 - Touch the equine or attempt to influence its movement (e.g., nudging it to walk on).



Commander Guidelines:

1. Role of the Commander:
 - If the rider requires a commander, the commander will read the test aloud for the rider.
2. Conditions for using Commanders:
 - The use of Commanders is allowed in Equestrian Canada (EC) Para Dressage tests, RDA tests, and FEI Novice tests.
 - Commanders are classified as non-standard compensating aids in FEI Para Dressage Intermediate and Grand Prix tests and may only be used if the specific rider is approved and listed on the EC or FEI Master Compensating Aids list.

How to Make a Video Entry

1. Submission Process:
 - Competitors must submit their video by providing the YouTube link via the EC online Para Dressage Video Competition portal [LINK](#).
2. Ensure that there is a separate video for each class:
 - A separate video must be recorded and submitted for each test if entering multiple classes within the same competition
3. Acknowledgment of Rules:
 - By entering the competition, riders (and riding centres, where applicable) confirm that they have read, understood, and agreed to abide by these rules.

Choosing Music for Your Freestyle Performance

The music you select plays a crucial role in your Freestyle performance, shaping the overall atmosphere and enhancing the impact. It should complement your horse's movement and highlight the harmony between horse and rider.

You can take one of two approaches:

- Music-First Approach: Select music that you enjoy and that complements your horse's movement and personality, then design your routine to fit the music.
- Test-First Approach: Plan your routine first, then select and edit music to match the movements.

Whichever method you choose, pick music you enjoy—you'll be practicing with it often!



Steps for Choosing the Right Music:

1. Match the Music to each pace:
 - Walk: A four-beat rhythm, similar to a ballad or march.
 - Trot: A two-beat rhythm.
 - Canter: A three-beat rhythm with a moment of suspension, making it feel like a four-beat. The same music used for walk can often work for canter.
2. Measure Your Horse's Beats Per Minute (BPM):
 - Use a metronome app or a video recording to determine your horse's bpm for each pace.
 - Wrap a colored polo on one front leg and count each time it touches the ground in one minute to calculate the bpm.
 - Adjust an electronic metronome to match the footfalls of the wrapped leg.
3. Select and Test Music Samples:
 - Choose music that closely matches your horse's bpm for each pace.
 - Ride while listening to different samples until you find the best fit.
4. Mix and Structure Your Music:
 - Pick two or three complementary pieces to keep the performance engaging. Avoid mixing very different genres (e.g., classical with rock).
 - Minimize lyrics, as they can make it difficult to edit and blend sections smoothly.
 - For the final salute, choose music with a strong finale to end with impact.
5. Synchronize Movements with Music:
 - Adjust your riding to align with the music—deepen corners to slow down or take shallow corners to catch up.
6. Prepare and Test Your Music:
 - Create at least two high-quality copies of your music and test them.
 - Label CDs or digital files clearly with your name, horse's name, event details, and cue for starting the music (e.g., "Rider raises hand when passing outside K").
7. Have Fun and Enjoy the Process!

Additional Tips

- Use music editing software (e.g., Audacity, a free program) to fine-tune your final mix.
- Search for music on platforms like YouTube, iTunes, and Amazon.
- Explore online tools to help find music with a similar bpm to your horse's gaits. One useful resource is [Equimusic](#).
- Remember to choose something you enjoy as you will be hearing it often as you practice!
- Watch dressage freestyle performances on YouTube for inspiration.

By following these guidelines, you can create a freestyle routine that enhances both your horse's movement and your overall performance!



SECTION 3:

HOW TO CREATE A YOUTUBE ACCOUNT AND UPLOAD A VIDEO

Step 1: Create a YouTube Account

1. Go to YouTube – Open your web browser and visit www.youtube.com.
2. Click ‘Sign Up’ – Find the Sign Up button at the top of the screen.
3. Fill in Your Information – Enter your name, email address, password, and any other required details.
4. Verify Your Email – You will receive a confirmation email. Click the link in the email to verify your account.

Step 2: Upload Your Video to YouTube

1. Go to the Upload Page – Click on ‘Create a video or post’ (camera icon) in the upper right corner of the homepage, then select ‘Upload video’.
2. Select Your Video – Click ‘Upload Video’ and then browse your computer for the file you want to upload.
3. Double-Click the File – Once selected, your video will begin uploading.

Step 3: Set Video Privacy Settings

Important: By default, videos uploaded to YouTube are public, meaning anyone can view them. It is highly recommended that you set your video to ‘**Unlisted**’. This setting ensures only people with the direct link can watch the video.

To do this:

- On the video upload page, find the visibility/privacy settings section.
- Select ‘Unlisted’ instead of ‘Public’ before publishing.

Step 4: Fill in Video Information

Title – The video title should include:

- Date of the test
- Rider’s last name
- Horse’s name
- Class number(s) entered

Description – Add any relevant details about the video:

- **Tags** – Use keywords related to the competition to help with organization.



Step 5: Publish and Share Your Video

- Click **'Publish'** once the upload is complete.
- Copy the video **URL/link** to submit it through the required online portal.

Now your video is successfully uploaded and ready for submission!



SECTION 4:

ENTRY PROCESS AND CHECKLIST FOR VIDEO SUBMISSION

To participate in the competition, follow the steps below to complete your entry and submit your video correctly.

Step 1: Record Your Test:

- Competitors must record a video of themselves performing the required test.
- Ensure the video meets all quality and filming guidelines.

Step 2: Upload Your Video to YouTube:

- Videos must be uploaded to YouTube before submission.
- Set the video privacy setting to 'Unlisted' to ensure only authorized individuals can view it.
- Name your video file correctly, including:
 - Date of the test
 - Rider's last name
 - Horse's name
 - Class entered

Step 3: Complete the Online Entry Form:

Before uploading your video, you must fill out the online entry form at [EC Online Portal](#). The form requires the following details:

Rider Information:

- Rider's EC Sport Licence number
- Rider's classification status (classified, non-classified, or hors concours)
 - *Note: Hors concours entries are not eligible for ribbons or High Champion at the end of the year.*

Horse & Coach Information:

- Horse's name
- Coach's name (if applicable)
- Riding centre name (if applicable)

Class Entry & Payment:

- List of class(es) entered
- Credit card payment information

Step 4: Upload Video & Final Checklist:



Before submitting, ensure the following:

- ✓ **Video Preview:** Have you checked your video to confirm it is clear and meets all requirements?
- ✓ **YouTube Upload:** Is your video uploaded to YouTube with the correct privacy settings?
- ✓ **File Size:** Is your video file **less than 2GB**?
- ✓ **File Name:** Does your video name include the correct details (date, rider's last name, horse name, and class entered)?
- ✓ **Payment:** Do you have a valid **credit card ready** for payment?

Step 5: Submission & Results:

- Submit your video via the [EC Online Portal](#) **before the competition deadline.**
- The results of each competition will be posted on the EC website at www.equestrian.ca/sport/Para Dressage /programs.

For any questions, please contact:

Please do not hesitate to contact EC's Para Dressage Program Coordinator, Jamie-Ann Goodfellow, with any questions at jgoodfellow@equestrian.ca.



SECTION 5: APPLICATION FORM

Coaches may enter riders into the Para Dressage Video Competition Series online. To do so, this form must be submitted in advance to Equestrian Canada.

Rider Details

EC Sport Licence for rider #: _____

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ E-mail: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ (DD/ MM /YYYY) Name of Riding Centre: _____

Coach Name: _____ Coach E-mail: _____

EC Sport Licence for coach #: _____

I agree to hold harmless and to indemnify Equestrian Canada from any and all liability for any property damage of any description or personal injury to me or to any third party or injury to my horse resulting from my participation in the above aforementioned activities. I agree that this agreement shall be binding upon my heirs, next of kin, executors, administrators and assigns in the event of my death. I agree that this agreement shall be governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Province of Ontario and any litigation involving the parties to this agreement shall be brought in Ontario. In entering into this agreement I am not relying on any oral or written representation or statements made by the Releasee with respect to the safety of the equine activities other than as set forth in this agreement.

I hereby grant Equestrian Canada the right to reproduce, use, exhibit, display, broadcast, distribute and create derivative works of the photographed images or videos taken of me for use in connection with the activities of Equestrian Canada, or for promoting, publicizing or explaining Equestrian Canada or its activities. In addition, I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product, including written copy, wherein my likeness appears. This grant includes, without limitation, the right to publish such images or videos in any of Equestrian Canada's, promotional materials and website, in any format and media available to Equestrian Canada now or in the future, including but not limited to print, broadcast, DVD, and electronic/online media.

Name of Rider

Signature of Rider

Date

Name of Coach

Signature of Coach

Date



THIS SECTION MUST BE COMPLETED IF THE RIDER IS 18 YEARS OF AGE OR UNDER, or UNDER PARENTAL GUARDIANSHIP

Parent/Guardian Indemnity Agreement

A parent or guardian's signature is required on the Application Form if the rider is 18 years of age or under or under a guardianship at the time of signing. This signature is in addition to and not in place of the rider's signature.

I am the parent/guardian of _____, who was born on _____ and is therefore a minor or under my guardianship at the time of signing the Application Form.

I recognize that the rider derives benefits from signing this application form. I also recognize that the rider assumes obligations thereby and I further recognize Equestrian Canada's desire and need to enforce these obligations. Accordingly, I agree to hold harmless and to indemnify Equestrian Canada from any and all liability for any property damage of any description or personal injury to the rider or to any third party or injury to the rider's horse resulting from the rider's participation in the Para Dressage Video Competition Series.

I hereby grant Equestrian Canada the right to reproduce, use, exhibit, display, broadcast, distribute and create derivative works of the photographed images or videos taken of the rider for use in connection with the activities of Equestrian Canada, or for promoting, publicizing or explaining Equestrian Canada or its activities. In addition, I waive any right to inspect or approve the finished product, including written copy, wherein the rider's likeness appears. This grant includes, without limitation, the right to publish such images or videos in any of Equestrian Canada's, promotional materials and website, in any format and media available to EC now or in the future, including but not limited to print, broadcast, DVD, and electronic/online media.

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

SIGNATURE

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO:
e-mail: jgoodfellow@equestrian.ca



SECTION 6: CLASS INFORMATION

Classes are organized into divisions based on ability levels to ensure a fair and inclusive competition experience. Each division is designed to accommodate riders with different levels of experience and skill.

Choosing the Right Class:

- Riders are encouraged to work with a coach to select the class that best matches their current riding ability.
- To foster skill development and competitive growth, riders are encouraged to compete at the highest level of their ability.
- There are classes available for riders who do not qualify for para dressage classification.
- NEW - VI (Visually Impaired) classes are available for riders with visual impairments.
- Please read all class descriptions carefully to ensure you select the correct class based on your current riding abilities.

Progression & Advancement:

- Riders who consistently place in the top three at their current level are encouraged to progress to the next division.
- Riders who are struggling, have experienced a setback, or are working with an inexperienced horse are encouraged to move to a lower division to rebuild confidence and develop skills.

Awards & Scoring Guidelines for Single-Rider Classes:

When there is only one rider entered in a class, ribbons and prizes shall be awarded in accordance with the following chart of percentages:

- 1st Place: 65% or higher
- 2nd Place: 60% to 64.9%
- 3rd Place: 57% to 59.9%
- 4th Place: 54% to 56.9%
- 5th Place: 54% or below
- No ribbons or prizes shall be awarded below 5th place

Additional Important Competition Guidelines:

- Riders may choose to perform all trot work in either sitting or rising trot.
- All competition tests can be accessed on the Equestrian Canada (EC) and Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) websites:
 - ❖ [EC Competition Tests](#)
 - ❖ [FEI Para Dressage Tests](#)
 - ❖ [Riding for the Disabled Association \(RDA\) Tests](#)



Division 1

Introduction to Sport – Beginner Leaders and Side Walkers

Eligibility & Class Structure:

Beginner classes are open to unclassified riders with a physical impairment who are new to para dressage competition.

These classes welcome riders who:

- Ride regularly but are first-time competitors
- Aim to build competition experience in a supportive environment
- Focus on developing basic control, rhythm, balance, and test patterns
- Use a leader and/or side walkers

Entry Limits:

Riders in Division 1 may submit:

- One technical test (class #1) per competition
- One freestyle test (class #2) per competition

Competitor Support:

All Division 1 competitors will receive feedback from an EC-certified official to help guide their progress and skill development.

Class #1

Riders in Class #1 may choose from following options:

- EC Para Dressage Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 - Introduction to Dressage – Walk Only (2018) - [LINK](#)
- EC Para Dressage Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 - Introduction to Dressage – Walk & Trot Test (2018) - [LINK](#)

Visually Impaired (Total TVI & Partial PVI) Test options:

- RDA Dressage TVI & PVI Test Walk Only (2020) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage TVI & PVI Test Walk & Trot (2020) - [LINK](#)

Class #2

Riders in Class #2 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- RDA Dressage Grade I Freestyle Test (2023) - (Walk Only)- [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage Grade 3 Freestyle Test (2023) (Walk/Trot) - [LINK](#)



Division 2

Introduction to Sport – Beginner Classes for Independent Riders No leaders or Side Walkers

Eligibility & Class Structure:

Beginner classes are open to unclassified riders with a physical impairment who are new to para dressage competition.

These classes welcome riders who:

- Ride regularly but are first-time competitors
- Aim to build competition experience in a supportive environment
- Focus on developing basic control, rhythm, balance, and following a test pattern

The objective is to provide an opportunity for riders to continue developing their riding abilities at their current ability level in a supportive and progressive environment

Entry Limits:

Riders in Division 2 may submit:

- One technical test (class #3) per competition
- One Freestyle test (class #4) per competition

Competitor Support:

All Division 2 competitors will receive feedback from an EC-certified official to help guide their progress and skill development.

Class #3

Riders in Class #3 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- EC Para Dressage Level 1 – Level 3 - Introduction to Dressage – Walk Only (2018) - [LINK](#)
- EC Para Dressage Level 1 – Level 3 - Introduction to Dressage – Walk & Trot Test (2018) - [LINK](#)
- EC Para Dressage Level 1 – Level 3 - Introduction to Dressage – Walk/Trot/Canter Tests - [LINK](#)

Visually Impaired (Total TVI & Partial PVI) Test options:

- RDA Dressage TVI & PVI Test Walk Only (2020) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage TVI & PVI Test Walk & Trot (2020) - [LINK](#)

Class #4

Riders in Class #4 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- RDA Dressage Grade I Freestyle Test (2023) - (Walk Only)- [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage Grade 3 Freestyle Test (2023) (Walk/Trot) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage Grade V Freestyle Test (2023) (Walk/Trot/Canter) - [LINK](#)



Division 3

Introduction to Sport – Novice classes

Eligibility & Class Structure:

Novice classes are open to unclassified riders with a physical impairment who have some previous competition experience in para dressage.

These classes welcome riders who:

- Ride regularly and are novice competitors
- Are more comfortable in a competition setting
- Have started refining their riding skills
- Aim to build competition experience in a supportive environment
- Focus on developing basic control, rhythm, balance, and following a test pattern

The objective is to provide an opportunity for riders to continue developing their riding abilities at their current ability level in a supportive and progressive environment.

Entry Limits:

Riders in Division 3 may submit:

- One technical test (class #5) per competition
- One freestyle test (class #6) per competition

Competitor Support:

All Division 3 competitors will receive feedback from an EC-certified official to help guide their progress and skill development.

Class #5

Riders in Class #5 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- EC Para Dressage Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 - Introduction to Dressage – Walk Only (2018) - [LINK](#)
- EC Para Dressage Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 - - Introduction to Dressage – Walk & Trot Test (2018) - [LINK](#)
- EC Para Dressage Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 - - Introduction to Dressage – Walk/Trot/Canter Test (2018) - [LINK](#)

Visually Impaired (Total TVI & Partial PVI) Test options

- RDA Dressage TVI & PVI Test Walk Only (2020) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage TVI & PVI Test Walk & Trot (2020) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage TVI & PVI Test Canter (2020) - [LINK](#)

Class #6

Riders in Class #6 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- RDA Dressage Grade I Freestyle Test (2020) - (Walk Only) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage Grade 3 Freestyle Test (2020) (Walk/Trot) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage Grade V Freestyle Test (2020) (Walk/Trot/Canter) - [LINK](#)



Division 4

Introduction to Sport - Development Classes Preparation for EC Bronze Level

Eligibility & Class Structure:

Development classes are open to both unclassified and classified riders with physical impairment who have some competition experience in para dressage and are ready to advance to new tests.

These classes welcome riders who:

- Have some competition experience in para dressage
- May not be classified or may not currently be riding at their classification grade
- Can choose a grade that reflects their current riding ability
- Aim to refine their skills, build confidence, and progress towards higher levels of competition

The objective is to provide an opportunity for riders to continue developing their riding abilities at their current ability level in a supportive and progressive environment.

Entry Limits:

Riders in Division 4 may submit:

- One technical test (class #7) per competition.
- One Freestyle test (class #8) per competition.

Competitor Support:

All Division 4 competitors will receive feedback from an EC-certified official to help guide their progress and skill development.

Class #7

Riders in Class #7 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- FEI Para Novice Test A (Grade I-V) ([LINK](#))
- FEI Para Novice Test B (Grade I-V) ([LINK](#))

Class #8

Riders in Class #8 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- FEI Para Novice Freestyle (Grade I-V) ([LINK](#))
- RDA Dressage Grade I Freestyle Test (2020) - (Walk Only) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage Grade 3 Freestyle Test (2020) (Walk/Trot) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage Grade V Freestyle Test (2020) (Walk/Trot/Canter) - [LINK](#)



Division 5

Introduction to Sport - Development Classes

Eligibility & Class Structure:

Development Classes are open to classified riders with physical impairment who have some competition experience in para dressage and are ready to advance to new tests.

**** Important - Riders must compete in their classified Grade in Division 5.**

These classes welcome riders who:

- Have some competition experience in para dressage
- Are classified and compete within their classified grade
- Aim to refine their skills, build confidence, and progress towards higher levels of competition

The objective is to provide an opportunity for riders to continue developing their riding abilities in a supportive and progressive environment.

Use of Commanders Progression & Guidelines:

- FEI Introductory Tests, riders are encouraged to ride without a commander to develop independent test-riding skills.

Entry Limits:

Riders in Division 5 may submit:

- One technical test (class #9) per competition.
- One freestyle test (class #10) per competition.

Competitor Support:

All Division 5 competitors will receive feedback from an EC-certified official to help guide their progress and skill development.

Class #9

Riders in class #9 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- FEI Para Novice Test A (Grade I-V) ([LINK](#))
- FEI Para Intermediate Test A (Grade I-V) (2023) - [LINK](#)

Class #10

Riders in class #10 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- FEI Para Novice Freestyle (Grade I-V) ([LINK](#))
- FEI Para Intermediate Freestyle (Grade I-V) (2023) - [LINK](#)



Division 6 Intermediate

National Gold Classes for Classified Para Dressage Riders

Eligibility & Class Structure:

National Gold Classes are open to classified National and FEI riders with experience in EC Gold level competitions.

**** Important - Riders must compete in their classified Grade in Division 6.**

These classes welcome riders who:

- Have experience in EC Gold level competitions
- Are classified and compete in their classified grade
- May submit up to three tests per competition leg (one test per class)
- Aim to showcase their skills, gain valuable competition experience, and progress to higher levels of Para Dressage

The objective is to provide an opportunity for riders to continue developing their riding abilities in a supportive and progressive environment.

Entry Limits:

Riders in Division 6 may submit:

- One technical test A (Grade I-V) (class #11) per competition.
- One technical test B (Grade I-V) (class #12) per competition.
- One freestyle test (Grade I-V) (class #13) per competition.

Performance Competitor Support:

To aid in rider development and progression, competitors will receive valuable feedback from EC High Performance Technical Advisor Clive Milkins, in addition to the judge's sheet from an EC certified official.

Use of Commanders:

- FEI Tests in Division 6: Commanders are a non-standard compensating aid and may only be used when riding an FEI test if the commander is listed on the EC or FEI Master Compensating Aids list for that rider.

Class #11

Riders in Class #11 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- FEI Para Novice Test A (Grade I-V) (2023) [LINK](#)
- FEI Para Intermediate Test A (Grade I-V) (2023) [LINK](#)
- FEI Para Grand Prix Test A (Grade I-V) (2023) [LINK](#)



Class #12

Riders in Class #12 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- FEI Para Novice Test B (Grade I-V) (2023) [LINK](#)
- FEI Para Intermediate Test B (Grade I-V) (2023) [LINK](#)
- FEI Para Grand Prix Test B (Grade I-V) (2023) [LINK](#)

Class #13

Riders in Class #13 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- FEI Para Novice Freestyle (Grade I-V) (2023) [LINK](#)
- FEI Para Intermediate Freestyle Test (Grade I-V) (2023) [LINK](#)
- FEI Para Grand Prix Freestyle Test (Grade I-V) Freestyle (2023) [LINK](#)



Division 7 Beginner Inclusive Competition Opportunities

Eligibility & Class Structure:

Introduction/Beginner Dressage Classes are open to beginner riders with physical and intellectual impairments who are not eligible to receive Para Dressage classification.

These classes welcome riders who:

- Ride regularly but may be first-time or novice competitors
- Aim to promote participation and build competition experience
- Focus on enhancing riding skills in a supportive environment
- Work on developing basic control, rhythm, balance, and following a test pattern

The objective is to provide an opportunity for riders to improve their skills, gain competition experience, and progress in a supportive and inclusive environment.

Entry Limits:

Riders in Division 7 may submit:

- One technical test (Class #14) per competition
- One Freestyle test (Class #15) per competition

Competitor Support:

- All Division 7 competitors will receive feedback from an EC-certified official to help guide their progress and skill development.

Class #14

Riders in Class #14 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- EC Para Dressage Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 - Walk Only Test (2018) - [LINK](#)
- EC Para Dressage Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 - Walk/Trot (2018) - [LINK](#)
- EC Para Dressage Level 1, Level 2, or Level 3 - Walk/Trot/Canter Tests (2018) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Intellectual Disability Walk Only Test (2019) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Intellectual Disability Walk & Trot Championship Test 2020) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Intellectual Disability Canter Championship Test (2020) - [LINK](#)

Class #15

Riders in Class #15 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- RDA Dressage Grade I Freestyle Test (2023) - (Walk Only) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage Grade 3 Freestyle Test (2023) (Walk/Trot) - [LINK](#)
- RDA Dressage Grade V Freestyle Test (2020) (Walk/Trot/Canter) - [LINK](#)



Division 8

Novice / Intermediate

Inclusive Competition Opportunities

Classes are open to riders with physical and intellectual impairments who are not eligible to receive Para Dressage classification.

These classes welcome riders who:

- Ride regularly but may be first-time or novice competitors
- Aim to promote participation and build competition experience
- Focus on enhancing riding skills in a supportive environment
- Work on developing basic control, rhythm, balance, and following a test pattern

The objective is to provide an opportunity for riders to improve their skills, gain competition experience, and progress in a supportive and inclusive environment.

Riders in Division 8 may submit:

- One technical test (class #16) per competition
- One Freestyle test (class #17) per competition

Competitor Support:

- All Division 8 competitors will receive feedback from an EC-certified official to help guide their progress and skill development.

Class #16

Riders in Class #16 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- FEI Para Novice Test A (2023) (Grade I-V) - [LINK](#)
- FEI Para Novice Test B (2023) (Grade I-V) - [LINK](#)
- FEI Intermediate Test A (2023) (Grade I-V) - [LINK](#)
- FEI Intermediate Test B (2023) (Grade I-V) - [LINK](#)

Class #17

Riders in Class #17 may select a test of their choice from the following options:

- FEI Para Novice Freestyle (2023) (Grade I-V) - [LINK](#)
- FEI Para Intermediate Freestyle (2023) (Grade I-V) - [LINK](#)



Canada 