



Combined Test (CT) Series

2020 RULES

This RCRA CT Series and its show management are committed to providing a safe environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. Individuals involved with this RCRA CT Series acknowledge and accept that the welfare of the horse is paramount. All competitions are run as Ontario Equestrian, Equestrian Skills Development Sanctioned Competitions.

All rules are based on the Equestrian Canada Rule book, Sections A, D and E, with some variation because of the schooling show nature of this series. A competitor is ultimately responsible for knowing and complying with these rules. Enforcement of show rules is the responsibility of show management, and officials.

MEMBERSHIPS

- To enter any/all of the RCRA CT shows you must be a “RCRA Competition Team” Member. This is an annual membership running with the calendar year. Membership is open to all – simply download a form, complete and mail or email to the competition secretary with your payment.
- Members must also have a current Ontario Equestrian (OE) membership. These can be purchased online from www.ontarioequestrian.ca .

PARTICIPATION

- The RCRA CT combined test series is open to all riders with a RCRA Competition Team membership. The multiple divisions offered ensure that competitors are competing against other competitors who have similar skill or experience, regardless of age. *Where there are sufficient entries, classes may be divided into Junior and Open divisions.*
- A competitor is a junior rider until the end of the calendar year in which he/she reaches the age of 18.
- All rider/horse combinations will receive an entry number that must be worn during all classes.

AWARDS

- Class and Division ribbons will be presented to 6th place
- Each weekend will have a Champion and Reserve Champion awarded for each Division.
- Riders will accumulate points based on their placing in each division at each show. At the final show of the season the overall division champions and reserve champions will be determined.
- Riders who compete in dressage only classes are eligible for dressage year end awards, but not for awards intended for combined test participants.

ENTRIES & CANCELLATION POLICY

- Competitors may enter dressage only, stadium only or the complete division. See the entry form for how to enter each area.
- Completed entry forms and payment must be emailed or mailed to the show secretary prior to the closing date for the show.

- The person signing as **person responsible** is attesting that the horse and rider entered are capable of competing at the level entered.
- Post-dated cheques will not be accepted.
- Closing dates are one week before each show date. Entries received after the closing date will be charged an additional \$25.00 late entry fee.
- **The competition organizer has the right to refuse any entry for any reason.**
- No refunds will be issued after the closing date unless either a veterinary certificate or doctor's note are provided to show management by midnight the Friday immediately before the competition.
- NSF cheques will incur a \$45.00 fee.

EQUIPMENT AND DRESS

- All competitors must wear a properly fastened ASTM or SEI approved helmet with safety harness at all times while mounted anywhere on show grounds.
- Any rider competing is permitted to wear a safety vest.
- Appearance must be neat and clean with all riders in a long or short sleeve shirt with collar, breeches and riding boots or paddock boots and half chaps of a conservative colour. Gloves are required. Show jackets are optional. Spurs without rowels are permitted.

Dressage test: Horses shall wear a snaffle bridle with a smooth mouthpiece (ie. twisted and roller bits are prohibited) with ring, egg-butt or bar type cheeks. The bit may be made of metal, rubber or synthetic material. Whips no longer than 120 cm (47") including lash may be carried when riding in dressage warm-up and the dressage test. Ear hoods are permitted. There may be a tack check for each competitor prior to the dressage test.

Jumping test: Whips no longer than 75 cm (30") are permitted, as are running martingales, jumping boots or bandages, fly shields for ears only, hackamores or gags.

FALLS

The first fall of competitor or horse will result in elimination from their current class.

A competitor is considered to have fallen when he/she is separated from their horse in such a way as to necessitate remounting. Where a rider falls, they are not permitted to remount in the ring. A horse is considered to have fallen when its shoulders and haunches have touched the ground at the same time. A rider who has fallen must be checked by a qualified professional who is in attendance at the show.

JUMPING TEST

This test is similar to an ordinary show jumping competition. In this series, this **class will be timed at the Pre-Entry, Entry and Pre-Training levels** to determine the placing of each competitor in the jumping test. Timed stadium classes will use closest to the optimum time to determine placing where there are clear rounds.

Riders will receive time penalties as per Eventing rules for unnecessarily slow rounds.

At the Grasshopper and Novice levels, where clear rounds occur, the judge will determine placing based on performance ie. style, smoothness of round.

The judge must be saluted prior to starting the round.

After the signal to start, competitors should cross the starting line within 45 seconds. Should a competitor be eliminated during their round, they will be signaled to stop, and must leave the course at that time.

Stadium speeds for each of the levels are as follows:

Pre-Entry and Entry – 300 m/m

Pre-Training – 325 m/m

Courses will have distances and optimum times posted on course maps. Start and finish points will be marked.

UNAUTHORIZED ASSISTANCE

Any outside intervention by voice, signs (except where dressage test is called), is considered as assistance to the rider or horse. Any such help given to a mounted competitor between the start signal and crossing the finish line will be penalized by elimination of the competitor.

SCHOOLING ROUNDS

All competitors may do a second or “schooling” round immediately following their competition round, if the rider wishes, and they may be assisted by their coach in the ring at this time. Only the first round will count towards the rider’s score in the division. Competitors must notify the judge that they intend to ride a second round prior to starting. There will not be any other schooling over the course except as time permits on Saturday at the completion of competition. If schooling is offered on Saturday, this will be announced and/or sent to all competitors no later than the Thursday prior to the show. As available, Saturday afternoon/evening schooling is offered at a nominal fee (TBD before January 15)

Competitors who are stabling overnight on Friday can school in the Dressage Ring from 5 pm to 7 pm on Friday.

SCORING

Dressage: The good marks from 0-10 awarded by the judge for each numbered movement of the dressage test are added together with the collective marks, and any errors deducted. **Half marks are permitted.** This is expressed as a percentage of the maximum possible good marks for each test. This percentage will be used to determine the placing of each competitor in the dressage portion of each division. The rider with the highest percentage score wins the class. Where there is only one entry in the class, the rider’s placing will be according to the following scale:

1st place – 60% or higher

2nd place – 57-59.9%

3rd place – 54-56.9%

4th place – 51-53.9%.

In order to convert the percentage mark to penalty points, the percentage mark is subtracted from 100, with the resulting figure rounded to one decimal digit. For example: the dressage score is 69.5%. Expressed as penalty points it would be $100 - 69.5 = 30.5$ penalty points.

Penalty points are added with the penalty points accrued in the jumping test to determine the overall placing in the division.

Jumping faults:

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| ▪ Knocking down an obstacle | 4 penalties |
| ▪ First disobedience | 4 penalties |
| ▪ Second disobedience | 8 penalties |
| ▪ Third disobedience | elimination |
| ▪ Fall of horse or rider | elimination |
| ▪ Omitting an obstacle | elimination |
| ▪ Not crossing start or finish lines | elimination |

Disobediences are defined as a refusal or run out.

A *refusal* occurs when a horse stops in front of an obstacle to be jumped, and steps back in any way. A stop followed immediately by a standing jump is not penalized, but if the halt is in any way prolonged, this constitutes a refusal.

A *run-out* occurs when a horse is presented to the obstacle and avoids the obstacle.

Time penalties will be applied for exceeding the time allowed at the Pre-Entry, Entry and Pre-Training levels. For each second or part second over the time allowed, riders will accrue $\frac{1}{4}$ time penalty. Riders who exceed the time limit (twice the time allowed) will be eliminated. Completing the course in less than the time allowed is not rewarded.