

Description of the Rising Stars Youth Dressage Equitation Program



The Rising Stars Equitation Program was developed and continues to be overseen by the Rising Stars Youth Dressage Committee established in 2004 in Chilliwack, British Columbia.

In 2019, the Rising Stars Equitation program was recognized by Equestrian Canada as a Dressage Youth Development program.

Objectives:

To assist in the development, in the improvement and in the continuing advancement of the equitation skills required by Youth Dressage riders by providing an ongoing evaluation of their equitation skills during the performance of a technical dressage test.

The improvement of equitation skills is the best pathway to develop Youth Dressage riders toward the higher levels!

Description:

A Dressage Equitation Judge will use the *Rising Stars Youth Dressage Equitation Score Sheet to evaluate the rider *based solely on rider skills* during a technical dressage test.

The Rising Stars Equitation Program is for all Youth Dressage Riders, up to and including 25 years of age.

Show organizers will determine which technical test will be used for the equitation evaluation at each level. For example: Test 2 of each level – i.e. First level Test 2.

The show organizer will decide if they will use the two (2) judge system for the equitation judging or the one (1) judge system.

- Two (2) Judge system: The Judge at C will be judging the technical test. The second Judge, (the Equitation Judge) may sit at E, H, M, B or any marked letter. The Equitation Judge can be added to a scheduled technical class.
- One (1) Judge system. A class designated as the RS Equitation Evaluation class. The YD Rider will ride their technical test at their level but will only be judged on their equitation. The Equitation Judge in this case, would sit at C.
- Other options are being explored at this time.

Categories – New in 2023:

Note: Previously the program was divided by age and level.

New for 2023: the riders/competitors will be grouped in one of the two categories:

- A) **Foundation level:** those competing at **Introductory, Training, First and Second or,
- B) **Progressive level:** those competing at Third, Fourth and FEI

Note: A competition may offer the Foundation level only or both the Foundation and Progressive levels.

**Offering Introductory level is optional depending on entries. If it is offered, Introductory will have its own Champion/Reserve Champion and will not be combined with Training, First and Second Level riders.

Awards and Championships

Show Champion and Reserve Champion:

- 1) The equitation score and technical score are **not** to be combined to determine equitation placings.
- 2) Based only on the equitation scores of the YD Riders, all riders achieving 60% or over, will be eligible to compete in one of two Equitation Championships:
 - A) Foundation level: those competing at: **Introductory; Training; First and Second,
or
 - B) Progressive level: those competing at: Third; Fourth and FEI
- 3) For eligible riders in: **A)** the Equitation **Foundation** Level Championship, the “Ride Off” will be based solely on equitation skills judged by the ‘Equitation Judge’.

The 'Ride Off' will be a group class including all riders who achieved 60% or over on their Equitation score sheet in ****Introductory, Training, First or Second level.**

Individual patterns may be requested by the 'Equitation judge' to establish the Champion and Reserve.

****If Introductory is offered, there is a separate Champion/Reserve Championship ride off. This is **not to be** combined with Training, First or Second level Championship ride off.**

- 4) For eligible riders-in: **B) Equitation Progressive Level**, the Champion and Reserve will be determined by the highest and second highest equitation scores achieved by those riders who achieved 60% or over on their Equitation score sheet at Third, Fourth or FEI level(s).

There is no ride off for the Progressive level.

a) Note:

If for any reason, a show committee is not able to offer the "ride off" for the Champion and Reserve Equitation **Foundation Level**, then the Champion and Reserve will be determined by the overall highest and second highest score (from the Equitation score sheets).

Introductory placings are separate.

For eligible riders-in: **B) Equitation Progressive Level**, the Champion and Reserve will be determined by the highest and second highest equitation scores achieved by those riders who achieved 60% or over on their Equitation score sheet at Third, Fourth or FEI level(s).

b) Note:

Where a competition offers Rising Stars Equitation classes under more than one license, all eligible riders from **ALL** licenses will participate in **A) or B)** to determine the overall competition Equitation Champion and Reserve in **A) and B).**

If a PTSO competition is being held at the same venue, on the same dates as an Equestrian Canada competition and both competitions are offering Rising Stars Equitation Classes, then the Equitation Championship and Reserve will include **ALL** riders from **BOTH** competitions that have achieved 60% or over on their Equitation score sheet.

Rising Stars Provincial Champion/Reserve Champion:

If offered, Champion and Reserve Champions in both **A) Foundation** and **B) Progressive**, established at each competition, will have qualified to compete in their Provincial or Regional Championship for a Provincial or Regional 'Ride Off'.

Rising Stars National Champion/Reserve Champion:

Once a number of Provincial or Regional 'Ride Off' Equitation Championships have been established; the intent in the future is for an annual National Equitation 'Ride Off' be held at an appropriate venue. Provincial/Regional Champions/Reserve Champions will qualify to ride in the National Head-to-Head ride off.

Resources:

Additional information can be found at www.risingstarsdressage.com

