

RISING STARS YOUTH DRESSAGE EQUITATION SCORE SHEET

PURPOSE: To promote, reward and evaluate the dressage rider's correct position, seat and use of aids. The performance of the horse is important only as it relates to the rider's seat and aids. **The quality of the horse should have no influence -the focus is on the rider.** Given this priority, the Rising Stars team has created this innovative evaluation score sheet to assess equitation skills.

EVALUATION OF INDIVIDUAL EQUITATION	COMMENTARY	MARK
Rider's Position and Seat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment, posture, stability, & weight placement in the walk, trot and canter. Ears/shoulder/hip/heel vertically aligned; heels level or slightly down, the front and back of the rider's trunk should be of equal length; straight line from elbow to horse's mouth. Contact to be independent from rider's seat, with hands carried steadily close together, the thumbs as highest point and straight line from elbow to horse's mouth. Relaxed and supple position, absorbing the movement of the horse. 		
Effectiveness of Aids: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use, timing and coordination of the rider's aids. Ability to ride forward & maintain contact through all paces and movements. Ability to ride the required movements of the test maintaining tempo and rhythm. Clarity, subtlety, independence, & accuracy of test. The effectiveness of the rider's aids determines the precise fulfilment of the required movements of the tests. 		
Precision: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The execution of the movements at the prescribed markers. Accuracy in the execution of the prescribed figures. Correct preparation of the transitions and movements. 		
Harmony/General Impression: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rider's balance and harmony with horse in following the mechanics of the gaits. Fluidity, partnership and accuracy of the rider/horse combination in executing the test. There should always be the impression of a harmonious partnership between horse and rider. 		x 2
Comments:		
Total marks (max 50)		
Multiply by 2 = Total Quality Score		
Final Score in %:		
<i>Marks from 0 to 10, decimals allowed (e.g. 7.3 or 8.7)</i>		

Developed and Prepared by the Rising Stars Youth Dressage Committee - www.risingstarsdressage.com

