

Judging Guidelines for Rising Stars Youth Dressage

Equitation Score Sheet

Effective from January 1st, 2021



Equestrian Canada Rules for the Rising Stars Equitation Program can be found at equestrian.ca, Dressage rules - Chapter 8, Pages 87-90

General:

The purpose of these Guidelines is to provide Equitation Judges with an overview of the Rising Stars Youth Dressage Equitation program while providing necessary judging directives. The description and overview of this program can be found in the ***Rising Star Equitation Program Description document** on our website (www.risingstarsdressage.com).

In 2019, the Rising Star Committee reviewed the Equitation Score Sheet. Based on feedback, the committee developed an updated version of the Score Sheet ready for use in 2021. This streamlined version is more user friendly for Judges and Scribes and easier for the Coaches and Riders to understand. Those familiar with the first version will find that the individual sections of Walk, Trot and Canter have been eliminated and are now referred to in Riders's Position and Seat section of the score sheet. The new version better supports the "Principles of Judging" required when judging RSYD Equitation.

Description Rising Stars Equitation Program:

*The *Description, Score sheet, Cover sheet and Judging scale* can be found under 'Resources' at www.risingstarsdressage.com.

Guidelines for the Rising Stars Equitation Judge:

The 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.

There are four sections on the *Score Sheet:

- 1) Riders' Seat and Position,
- 2) Effectiveness of AIDS,
- 3) Precision,
- 4) Harmony/ General Impression.

Each section is scored from 0 – 10 with decimals allowed (e.g., 7.3, 8.7). The score for Harmony and General Impression has a co-efficient of 2 which brings a total possible score of 50.

Note: There are no “other penalties” or “deductions” for Equitation Score Sheets. These only take place on the technical dressage tests and are reflected in the score(s).

Equitation Judging Scale:

**This document is available for download under ‘Resources’ at www.risingstarsdressage.com.

Rising Stars Equitation Judging Scale

Evaluation of the rider's ability to execute the movements in harmony with the horse while maintaining a correct and stable riding position.

Scale of Marking	Standards	Description
Excellent 9 - 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highly Effective • Clearly demonstrating Influence and Competency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates all standards, exceptional basics and a balanced, stabilized position with hands independent from the seat in all three gaits allowing clear influence and competency of the aids to create a harmonious ride.
Very Good 8.9 - 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective • Influence and competency progressing and being demonstrated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant demonstration of basics/standards. • A good example of a balanced, stabilized position with hands equally independent from the seat in all three gaits thus allowing the demonstration of influence and competency of the aids to help in creating a more harmonious ride.
Good 7 - 7.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The beginnings of effectiveness through influence and competency being demonstrated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A positive picture demonstrating most basics/standards. • An example of a balanced, stabilized position with hands showing independence from the seat in all three gaits while demonstrating the beginnings of effectiveness through influence and competency of the aids to create a fairly harmonious ride.
Satisfactory 6 - 6.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meets the Basic Equitation Standard • Developing correct influence and partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates a fundamental understanding of the basics/standards. • Showing some balance and stability in position with hands needing to develop more independence of the seat. • Demonstrating some correct influence in the use of aids to show some harmonious moments during the ride.
Sufficient 5 - 5.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some Basic Skills • The beginnings of communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates some basic skills but needs a better understanding of the basics/standards. • More development in the balance and stability of the position is required. • Hands are not quite yet independent of the seat. • While some influence is being demonstrated, it is not always applied correctly in the use of aids.
Insufficient 4 - 4.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More development of the basic skills are required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ability to consistently demonstrate the basic skills/standards is not enough at this time. • Balance and stability in the position needs more development. • Hands are not independent of the seat. • Communication with the horse through the use of aids needs more understanding and body coordination.
Ineffective 0 - 3.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not having or showing the necessary basic equitation skills 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not having or showing the basic skills/standards. • Balance and stability in the position needs more development. • Hands are not independent of the seat. • Communication with the horse through the use of aids needs more understanding, body coordination, and development.

Created by the Rising Stars Youth Dressage Committee



Judging System:

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 be judged only on their equitation. The Equitation Judge in this case, will sit at C.
- Other options are being explored at this time.

Resources for Equitation Judges:

Additional information can be found under ‘Resources’ at www.risingstarsdressage.com

