

# PONY CLUB QUEENSLAND

## ORGANISER'S KIT FOR OFFICIAL COMPETITIONS & ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS OFFICIAL DRESSAGE 2026

Your Club/Zone has been granted an Official Dressage event to be held

on.....

The following will be of assistance to you in conducting this competition in an effective and professional manner, and we would ask that you observe the requests for information on judges and results and supply same **at the time specified.**

Clubs organising official events must have the current Dressage & Combined Training Rule Book and the Scoring Handbook available from the PCQ Office or on PCQ Website.

**Your first step in organising an event should be to arrange the services of a PCQ Steward who will be your Technical Delegate for the event.** As well as inspecting your arenas you should involve the TD in many of the decision making processes.

### **PROGRAMME**

Refer to Dressage Rule Book (Revised January 2026) for information on classes for official events.

Disclaimer clause and Reservation of Rights must be printed on all programmes as printed in Rule Book.

**Your programme must be approved by the Sub-Committee, please send in your programme for approval, in plenty of time prior to distributing to clubs.** If unofficial events are run in conjunction with an official competition, this part of the programme must also be submitted.

**You will be notified when your programme has been approved or if anything needs to be altered, a revised programme would need to be re-submitted for approval.**

### **JUDGES & STEWARDS**

**Your PCQ Steward (TD) and Judges must be Approved by the Sub-Committee in conjunction with the Regional Director Of Coaching for your area (2015).**

**Please supply the above information on the enclosed form at least three weeks before the event. Failure to do this may result in your day being declared unofficial. If there are changes made to the list after approval is given, the sub-committee must be notified and new judges approved by Chairperson of Sub-committee prior to the event.**

### **Official Classes:**

Refer to the sample programme, the format of which is to be followed.

Riders in Preliminary, Novice, Elementary and Medium must be 13 years of age and under 26 years.

**PERFORMANCE CARDS ARE REQUIRED FOR ALL RIDERS IN OFFICIAL CLASSES, INCLUDING 10 & U and 12 & U. *this is particularly to record State Qualifiers (Seniors do not require Performance Cards)***

**The Entry Form** should have provision for the registration number of horses in all sections also the membership number and club name for **ALL** riders in all classes, and PIC number of the property where the horse is kept.

### **Unofficial Classes:**

Additional unofficial classes may be included on programme eg for specific age group.  
Unofficial classes should not hold up or impede the running of the Official section.

**All rules per official competition will apply to unofficial events**, but riders will not need grading cards.

### **Nominations:**

- Entries can be made through My Pony Club portal or as directed by the organising club's secretary
- **A horse may only compete in one level for the day.**
- **Riders CANNOT CHOOSE to upgrade or downgrade on the day of the competition. This must be applied for and approved prior to the competition.**
- Riders under 13 years at official events will compete in their respective age group. They may ride any grade of horse along as it is their normal pony club mount.
- Rider 13 & U26 years may choose their grading for each competition – ie novice one competition / elementary the next.
- For State competitions, a horse/rider combination must compete at the highest qualified grade as recorded on their grading card.
- Qualifying %'s have been changed back to 60% for dressage.
- As from 2020 there will be no points allocated for placings, just %'s which will be used for state qualifications.
- Nominations that do not have Horse Registration numbers AND riders do not have Performance/registration card on the day, will compete HC (June 2011).
- Organisers cannot stop riders competing if they do not have their Performance /registration card with them, but may withhold awards until Card is produced.
- A horse must be one of the following: owner ridden, leased (lease must have been approved), or owned by a financial member of the same club (lease not required).
- A horse may only have one rider on the day, see exceptions in Rule Book.-
- Riders found to be in breach of these rules will forfeit their placings, along with any trophies won, as well as qualifications for state event.
- A person should be appointed to collect, inspect and enter results in performance cards. Cards for all riders in the official classes, (including 12u and 10u), are checked that the rider is entered in the class shown on the horse's performance card. Competitors may ride graded or official 12 & u horse (Oct12) in an unofficial class if rider is not currently competing in official classes (June10).

### **Two horse rule:**

**The decision regarding ruling on whether riders may ride one or two horses for the day is the decision of the organising committee but should be stated in the programme. If two horses are permitted, the following applies:**

- Riders may enter two horses in the same or different class/grade
- Each horse may gain qualifying results
- Each horse may be placed in its class and is eligible for overall awards

### **Hors Concours: HC**

Organisers may at their discretion accept entries HC but no prize can be awarded.

Organisers are responsible for informing the scorers of combinations permitted to compete HC and these horses must be show on the scoreboard as competing HC **and on the draw for each ring** so the scorers know not to place them, but must indicate if the result met the qualifying criteria for State Championships as riders are allowed ONE HC performance.

### **Division or Combination of Groups:**

- Groups of over 30 riders but less than 40 riders **may be divided** into two groups, but **must be divided**

when numbers exceed 40. (2010)

- This will be done by virtue of the draw e.g. first 40 into group 1, next 40 into group 2, etc.
- There is no option to divide a group with less than 30 riders.
- **Insufficient numbers** classes may be combined with the next lower grade or classes with less than 3 riders become unofficial and cannot form part of the team.
- If you combine classes you must notify the rider of the change as soon as possible, especially if they have to learn a new dressage test. Higher graded horses do not have to count the win/placing unless they wish to do so, however the result should be entered on their performance card.
- **HOWEVER, Organisers are encouraged to run the competition so that riders have the opportunity to qualify and gain experience in their correct grade.**
- If overall awards are given, the organisers are not required to give an award of the same value to the overall winner of any Class with less than 3 competitors.”

### Seniors:

- Are a recognised Age Group at all but State Championships and therefore must be offered the opportunity to compete.
- Seniors do not form part of an Official team
- Organisers may run Seniors under Option A or Option B and must be stated on programme which option is being applied to the event.  
**Option A:** Seniors to choose from classes 3, 4, 5, 6, Prep unoff (13-26 ideally) (Official Preliminary, Novice, Elementary, Medium or prep) to be eligible for overall awards, but if no class is stated will ride in Class 3 Official Preliminary (Jan 09).  
**Option B:** Seniors will compete as one Group in Class 6, which will consist of one official preliminary test and on official novice test.

**REFER TO RULE BOOK Para 6.d. for further details.**

### Performance Cards:

- All Official competitors must hand in a performance card before the start of the day.
- **The following should be entered by the competitor before handing in the Performance card\*\*:**  
Date      Venue      Rider (on the day)      Grading (on the day) If it is an old card, insert Rider's name in Total Points column, and leave Points column blank. Organiser only then has to enter Placing and if combination qualified, and sign it.  
**\*\*It is a requirement to PUT THIS ON YOUR DRAW (2019).**
- If the competitor cannot produce the card, for any reason, they would still be allowed to compete as per official nomination, however **any awards won for the day should be withheld until the card is sighted and the points recorded.**
- It is desirable to appoint someone to be responsible to collect, inspect and enter results in performance cards, This person should be responsible for collecting cards from all riders in official classes filling out any Qs on cards and returning the cards to the riders at the end of the day as they return their back numbers..
- **It is the Riders' discretion to select the grade they wish to ride on the day.**
- **See above – no Grading points are allocated.**
- **However when a score of 60% or more is achieved a Q is recorded on the performance card.**

### Draw:

- Riders from the same club should not be placed '**en bloc**'. It is the riders, who are drawn, not the club.
- Riders should not ride in the same order in both tests, i.e. the same riders cannot be No.1 in each class, however it is acceptable to start at a different point for each class e.g. first test starts at No.1, second test at No. 8.
- If numbers are large & classes are divided, riders from the same club should be spread across the classes.
- Riders travelling from greater distances should not be put first in the draw.
- Timetable the same group of riders for the same part of the day eg. Under 11 yrs - NOT one test early am & second test last of the day.

- If a rider has more than one horse in the group, **they should be given sufficient time between tests, to change to and prepare their second horse** so the event is not held up.
- If Option A is used for Senior competition, indicate on the draw if a rider is a Senior within that class e.g. SNR.

### **Judges:**

#### **NB are now required to hold blue cards – verify when booking**

- It is as well to contact judges (List of Dressage Judges can be found on PCQ website) as soon as you have your date confirmed.
- **2 Judges required per ring..** (Exception: Preliminary and Novice competitions may be judged by a single Elementary standard or higher Judge, if circumstances arise which prevent two judges being used) EA qualified judges may be used. Please state the judges EA level when submitting his/her name for approval. In regional areas one judge per ring is permissible.
- **Medium – new official 2020 Where medium classes are to be used, JUDGES MUST BE APPROVED BY PCQ and/or EA Medium or above. If not the the MEDIUM CLASS CANNOT PROCEED.**
- When people agree to officiate, please confirm at once and nearer the event, telephone to make sure they are still able to come.
- No judge should be expected to judge more than 40 horses in a day and no more than 35 horses in any one competition.
- You should try to avoid having two judges from one club in the same ring.
- **Conflicts of Interest:** Please keep in mind that family, close relatives, team managers or trainers of any competitor cannot judge the grade/group that the competitor is participating in. When confirming judging appointment, please ask if there is anyone that they should not judge.
- Judges should be notified to the Dressage Sub-Committee **on the enclosed form at least ten days before the date of your event. Failure to do this may result in your day being declared unofficial.** If Judges have to be changed after this, you must notify PCQ.
- Please try to change at least one of the judges before riders compete in their second test for the day i.e. riders must not be judged by the same two persons for both tests.
- **Refreshments:** Judges/tds/pencillers should be provided with comfort breaks and refreshments from time to time during the day and td/judges should be given lunch.
- **Expenses:** Payment of travel and out of pocket expenses for judges/technical delegates should be offered at a rate of 80c per kilometre or \$80.00 whichever is the greater plus overnight accommodation if required.
- If another judge/td/course builder comes as a passenger they do not receive mileage but do receive \$80 per day that they officiate.
- Judges and tds are entitled to their travel, as above for their first day of judging and a further remuneration of \$80 per day for any subsequent days they provide their officiating services.
- **Helpers:** Clubs applying for Official Days should bear in mind that they need to provide the majority of the work force from their own members and limit the request for helpers from competitors. Other clubs should only be asked to provide assistance for jobs as Dressage pencillers.(Oct.09)

**Pencillers:** Do arrange pencillers before the day starts. **DO NOT LEAVE IT UNTIL THE MORNING OF THE COMPETITION.** Clubs can ask for help based on one helper for every 3 competitors or part thereof.

### **Technical Delegate:**

- The Technical Delegate is PCQ's official representative at each official competition.
  - Technical Delegate should be taken from PCQ Technical Delegates list, but this is not extensive.
  - If not from list, supply details of TDs experience. Ideally the TD should be from another club.
- Your recommendation will be considered by the Committee.

**YOUR PCQ STEWARD (TD), JUDGES & COURSE BUILDERS WILL BE APPROVED BY THE SUB-COMMITTEE IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF COACHING FOR YOUR AREA (Aug2014).**

- The competition cannot proceed without the Technical Delegate. The Zone Delegate to PCQ sub-committee may be asked to fill the role under certain circumstances, provided this person is conversant with rules, regulations and scoring in this discipline, or a TD committee may be arranged.
- The Technical Delegate is NOT there to run the event, this is the duty of the Chief Steward. However, the Technical Delegate is required to report on the event to PCQ.
- The TD will be present on the day of the event:
  - To ensure it is conducted in accordance with the Rules
  - To interpret rules where necessary
  - To supervise the event
  - To give what help and guidance may be required, before the event if required with programmes etc
  - To inspect and approve courses and arenas before they are shown to riders
  - To authorize appropriate alterations being made if, in his opinion and in consultation with the Course Builder, the courses are not in all respects within the limits laid down in the Rules or are unsuitable for the classes of horses expected to take part
  - To take responsibility for all decisions except where otherwise stated in the rules.

### **Scoring:**

- Make every effort to have a place for scorers where they will not be easily accessible to competitors.
- If possible have a separate person available to answer queries, especially on a day of competition.
- **The person in charge of the scoring should be familiar with the procedure, especially if 'Live Scoring is being used.'**
- If in doubt call in the TD.
- Grading Points no longer apply. Placing Points, from 10 to 1, are only used at events.
- Clubs organising official events MUST have the relevant Rule Book and Scoring Handbook, available from the PCQ office or Website.
- Horses do not upgrade during the day.
- Horses meeting the qualifying criteria for state events **MUST** have a **Q** entered beside the result on the mastersheet for each test, i.e. 60% in the test.
- Riders must check the mastersheet before leaving the competition to verify the **Q** has been entered beside their **result and on their performance card.**

### **Teams:**

- It is the organising committee's decision as to whether to include a team event or not.
- Teams shall consist of best four riders from one club with the three best scores to count. A team of three is acceptable and may beat a team of four. Clubs may have more than one team.
- Teams may be taken from any grade or group in the official programme. Points are awarded from 10 to 1 in all events.
- Teams with less than 3 riders remaining in the competition cannot be placed.
- Seniors or riders from unofficial classes do not form part of an official team.
- Organisers may offer an Unofficial teams (as above). Seniors can form part of an unofficial team.

### **Results**

- Results should be placed on the notice board during the day and kept up to date. Presentations for individual classes should be made after results have been displayed for 30 minutes. Dressage sheets may be made available to riders after each class (test) is completed and results posted.
- Final presentations should be made as soon as possible after the last event is finished but after the 30 minutes has elapsed.
- Results should be forwarded to PCQ within two weeks of the event, using the official result sheets provided (photocopy as required), listing the actual judges of each class. A computer print out is acceptable, but please ensure that all the necessary information is provided, e.g. riders' names, membership numbers, horses' names (as per Performance Card), registration numbers, **Qs** if applicable, and if they **do not wish to take their points**, where applicable..
- Also a full report for the event including Judges' names and the TD's report must accompany the results.

### **Awards:**

- Ribbons must be awarded to fifth place in all events. Ribbons **may read** "XYZ Pony Club **Official Dressage**".
- It is up to the Club whether they award overall trophies/sashes, however if they do they should be awarded on the 10 to 1 scoring basis.
- The trophies in the Official section should be of greater value than those in the Unofficial section.
- Whether horse/rider combination qualifies for the State Event has no bearing on their places on the day.
- **If overall awards are given, the organisers are not required to give an award of the same value to the overall winner of any Class with less than three (3) competitors.**
- If the competitor cannot produce the card for any reason, any awards/placings won for the day should be withheld until the card is sighted and the Q's recorded, you cannot stop a rider from competing.

### **Substitutions:**

- Mounts may be substituted before the commencement of the event upon presentation of a Veterinary certificate or a written statement from the Club Chief Instructor.
- If a substitution is made, the replacement mount must be eligible within the terms of the PCQ rules.
- The substituted mount does not have to be the same grade/group as the original mount.
- No substitution of rider is permitted under any circumstances.

### **Refund of Nominations:**

- Nominations will be refunded providing the organising body is advised of the scratching before the commencement of the event.
- And receives a request for a refund in writing including a vet's certificate for the horse or a doctor's certificate for the rider within one week of the event. 10% of the entry fee may be retained by the organiser to cover administration costs.

**Dressage Arenas** – Arenas must comply with rule book requirements

### **Medical/First Aid Requirements**

#### **Refer to PCA Minimum Medial Requirements 2026**

- Provision for major injury to horse:-
  - Organise vet to respond if required
  - Horse float to act as ambulance if required
  - Hessian or material to use as a screen

**DPI:** Be aware that in the future that the DPI may make it compulsory for a biosecurity plan to be outlined in case of an outbreak of infectious disease such as Hendra.

**Prize Money:** Under no circumstances should prize money be offered, no exceptions. This is a rule of PCQ.

## **PERSONNEL REQUIRED TO RUN AN OFFICIAL DRESSAGE**

**Consideration must be given to comply with Qld child safety requirements, including Blue Cards.**

CHIEF STEWARD

Should have a sound knowledge of the rules and procedure for running an Official Dressage day.

PCQ STEWARD (TD)

**THE FIRST OFFICIAL TO BE BOOKED BY AN ORGANISING COMMITTEE IS THE TD AND THEY ARE TO MAKE SURE THAT PROGRAMME ETC IS CORRECT before forwarding it to PCQ.**

Should be submitted to the Sub-Committee for approval, can be Zone delegate to PCQ Sub-committee, or the Committee will appoint a PCQ Steward, ideally from another club but not necessarily.

ORGANISING  
SECRETARY

***Before the day:***

Before the Programme is printed and sent out, submit to PCQ for approval

- Obtain judges/TD and submit for approval to PCQ
- Send out approved programme & put on PCQ website
- Arrange and appoint other necessary personnel
- Obtain sufficient numbers of all necessary score sheets OR
- Organise 'Live Scoring' and electronic nominations.
- Do draw and workers list and send out week prior
- Contact judges
- Arrange back numbers and all workers for the day
- Do arrange pencillers before the day starts.

(This can be done by asking for workers from competing clubs on entry form ie: 1 worker for every three riders)

***On the day:***

- Issue back numbers, collect & fill out performance cards
- Arrange presentation of awards

***After the event***

- Submit results to PCQ as soon as possible either by email or hard copy.

***NB. This is only the main points of the Secretary's job. There will be many other arrangements to make.***

JUDGES	2 judges per ring.
PENCILLERS	One per judge.
GEAR STEWARDS	One for each 2/3 rings.
SCORERS	Minimum of two for 1 ring & a minimum of 4 for 2 to 6 rings (Extra scorers may be required depending on numbers.)
RUNNERS	One for every 2 rings
ANNOUNCER	
ARENA CREW	Personnel to set up and pull down arenas
CATERING CREW	Provide water and refreshment to Judges, coursebuilders and workers

**Please Note:**

As per October 2009 minutes:-

**7.5.3 "Clubs applying for Official Days should bear in mind that they need to provide the majority of the work force from their members and limit the request for helpers from competitors. Other clubs should only be asked to provide assistance for jobs as Dressage pencillers, Rail stewards and Cross Country Stewards."**

# SAMPLE PROGRAMME

## XYZ PONY CLUB INC

*Insert club logo*

*Club – insert club name*

**Official Dressage & Combined Training – insert date**

*Venue: insert*

*Entry fee: As a guide - \$40 per rider for either Dressage or Combined Training  
Or \$50 per rider for both Dressage & C/Training*

*Entries: Insert either Nominate, Just Go or club secretary*

*Entries Close: Insert date (ideally 10 days prior to event)*

*Enquiries: Insert name and phone number plus email*

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***This event is a State Championship qualifier for (insert year i.e: 2026)  
using EA tests linked from PCQ website and run under current PCQ rule  
book/PCA gear rules.***

### **OFFICIAL DRESSAGE PROGRAMME**

#### **OFFICIAL**

<b>Class</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Test</b>	<b>Choose 2 from the tests as listed below</b>
D1	Under 11yrs	1.1 - 1.2	1.1, 1.2 and 1.3
D2	11 & Under 13yrs	1.2 - 1.3	1.1, 1.2 and 1.3
D3	11 & Under 13yrs	1.2 - 2.1	1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 and only test 2.1 due to leg yield in other novice tests.
D4	Preliminary 13-U26yrs	1.2 - 1.3	1.1, 1.2 and 1.3
D5	Novice 13-U26yrs	2.1 - 2.2	2.2, 2.2 and 2.3
D6	Elementary 13-U26yrs	3.1 – 3.2	3.1, 3.2 and 3.3

#### **UNOFFICIAL**

D7	10 & U13yrs	<b>Please note that Prep 3 has canter in it and is not a true walk/trot test.</b>	
D8	13 & U26yrs	Prep 1 & Prep 2 <i>as an example</i>	
	this age group	Prep 1 & Prep 2 or 1.1 & 1.2 as an example depending if you want to separate	
D9	Seniors	Option 1 - Will ride in D4,5, 6, Unoff Prep or but if not stated will ride D4 or Option 2 – One official preliminary/one official novice test.	

**AWARDS – Trophies 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> place -optional / Ribbons to 1-5<sup>th</sup> place – standard PCQ awards**

**Performance cards are required for Classes 1, 2, 3, 4 5 & 6 and must be handed to the organising secretary prior to the commencement of event.**

**Riders may enter two horses as per the Two Horse Rule (January 2018)**

**TEAMS: (Optional)** Teams shall consist of the best 4 riders from one club, with the best 3 scores to count. A team of 3 is acceptable and may beat a team of 4. Teams may be taken from any grade or group in Official Programme

## UNOFFICIAL PROGRAMME

Class 7	Under 13 years	Prep A and Prep B
Class 7	13 & Under 26 years	1.1 and 1.2 Choice Organising Committee
Class 8	Seniors*	

### \*Seniors : Option A or Option B TO BE STATED ON PROGRAMME

**Option A:** Seniors to choose from classes (**Preparatory**, Official Preliminary, Novice or Elementary, Medium (**Jan 2025**)) to be eligible for overall awards, but if no class is stated will ride in Class 4 Official Preliminary (Jan 09).

**Option B:** Seniors will compete as one Group in Class 6, which will consist of one official preliminary test and on official novice test.

### **Awards:**

<b>Ribbons</b>	<b>To fifth place in each class—points to 10th place</b>
<b>Trophies</b>	<b>To overall winner in each group (<i>Trophies in Official classes Should be of a greater value than those for unofficial</i>)</b>
<b>Medallions</b>	<b>To winners of Teams section</b> (suggestion only)

## RESERVATION OF RIGHTS

The organising committee reserves the right to; cancel any class or event, combine or divide classes according to the numbers nominated and the rules governing splitting of groups, alter advertised times, transfer competitors between sections of a class and to refuse any entry with or without stating a reason.

**DISCLAIMER:** Neither the organising committee of this event nor PCAQ accepts any liability for the damage, accident, injury or illness to horses, riders, spectators or any other persons or property whatsoever.

**The final responsibility for the suitability of the mount, saddlery and equipment rests with the Rider or their responsible adult. (see General Rules)**

**Protests:** Should be lodged within 30 minutes of the results being posted, or the incident and should be accompanied by \$50 fee which is refundable only if the protest is upheld.

**CANTEEN:** All facilities available on the day.

# OFFICIALS for DRESSAGE DAY

This form should be submitted to the Dressage Sub-Committee **at least three weeks before the date of the event.** Any change in judges should be advised immediately.

ORGANISING ZONE OR CLUB.....

Official Competition OR Zone Championships Delete what is not applicable

DATE: ..... VENUE:.....

## JUDGES:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Grade</u>
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

PCQ STEWARD (Technical Delegate).....

Judges should be on the official PCQ List as supplied or be **EA accredited** when you should state beside the name the EA accreditation.

Signed: ..... Phone No. ....  
*Club/Zone Secretary*

# REPORT ON OFFICIAL DRESSAGE DAY

Please complete and return with your results to PCQ **within two weeks of the event**

**Official Competition OR Zone Championships** (Delete what is not applicable)

**Club/Zone:**..... **DATE**.....

**Number of Official Competitors:..... Number of Unofficial Competitors:.....**

Conditions: Wet..... Dry..... PCQ Technical Delegate.....

Officials on the Day were - Dressage Judges:

- 1) ..... 2) .....
- 3) ..... 4) .....
- 5) ..... 6) .....
- 7) ..... 8) .....

Brief description of any Incidents and overall running of the Event:

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

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 .....  
 .....  
 .....

## PCQ STEWARD (TECHNICAL DELEGATE'S) REPORT

.....  
 .....  
 .....

SIGNED .....DATE.....

The TD should comment on some or all of these points in the report.

	GOOD	SUITABLE	POOR	COMMENT
Organisation of the day				
Admin/Secretarial/Scoring				
Judges				
Personnel e.g. Gear Check				
Accident/Incident reporting				
Communications				
Grounds				
Equipment				