

# Annex 7: Young Dressage Horse Competitions

## Horse Eligibility

1. The Official Age of all horses will be calculated as per FEI Rules and DNZ article 461.3 (1st August for Southern Hemisphere born horses and 1st January for Northern Hemisphere born horses).
2. Age & Pedigree Verification

**It is the responsibility of the rider or person responsible to ensure that the correct age, breed, sire, dam and dam sire of the horse is entered in the profile section of the ESNZ database and any Event Management system (eg EvoEvents) and that the horse is entered in the correct class.**

- a. For Local Events / PL Shows / Named Events: No age or pedigree verification is required other than the above.
- b. For NZ National Championships: All horses MUST have a Passport or Breed Papers. These must be uploaded with ESNZ and any event management system by the date of close of entries or the entry will not be accepted.

NB Studbooks providing Papers / Passports include [www.sphanz.co.nz](http://www.sphanz.co.nz) for non-warmblood horses, [www.nzhanoverian.com](http://www.nzhanoverian.com) and [www.nzwarmbloods.com](http://www.nzwarmbloods.com) for warmblood horses, [www.irishhorse.org.nz](http://www.irishhorse.org.nz) for Irish Sport Horses. Thoroughbred horses can get their pedigrees from [www.loveracing.nz](http://www.loveracing.nz)

3. Horses must exceed 148cm with shoes.

## Rider Eligibility

1. Riders must be current competitive members of ESNZ to compete in YDH competitions
2. Rider age: Riders may compete in YDH competitions from the beginning of the calendar year in which they turn 12 years of age.

## Dress Code

1. Dress code applies (as per DNZ article 479) in all YDH classes held at all categories of events.
2. Dressage NZ dispensations do not apply and the use of any rider compensating aids is not permitted.

## Whips

A whip (total maximum length of 120cm including flapper) is permitted to be carried in all YDH classes.

## Commanding

Where riders are permitted to use their own commander, they must stand at E or B and on the opposite side from any judges.

## Saddlery

1. All horses are to be ridden in a snaffle bridle with a minimum mouthpiece diameter of 12mm.
2. No dispensatory aids are permitted.

## Grading Points

No grading points are allocated for YDH competitions.

## Tests

The 2021 Dressage NZ Tests for 4, 5 and 6yo horses must be used.

Links to tests:

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/disciplines/dressage/resources/dressage-tests/>

## Rules

Unless specifically stated in this document, all ESNZ rules for Dressage apply.

## Qualifying

No previous qualifying scores are required to enter YDH classes however if balloting is required this will be at the OC's discretion and priority will be given to young horses who have gained over 65% in any graded competitions.

## Competition Format

Competition	Local and PL Shows	NI / SI Future Stars and National Finals
Competition	Local / PL Shows	NZ Nationals 2024
Age Groups	May include 4, 5 and 6 year old classes	MUST include 4, 5 and 6 year old classes
Rounds	<p>At the OC's discretion</p> <p>(normally 1 round using Round 1 Tests or 2 rounds using both Round 1 and Round 2 Tests)</p> <p>A final may be held in any format deemed suitable by the OC but this must be clearly laid out in the program.</p> <p>Judge's commentary should be given whenever possible</p>	<p>1st Round using the Round 1 tests, with the top 3 horses to come back for judging in the finals.</p> <p>Final round is judged as a "stand alone class" with the judges giving commentary and directives. Scored as per the FEI Young Horse Marking Sheet ie marks given for the walk, trot, canter, submission and perspective to decide the final placings.</p>
Tests	Tests may be ridden individually or in groups of 2	Round 1 tests may be ridden individually or in groups of two
Commanding	All tests may be commanded	The first round may be commanded. In the second (final) round no test will be ridden
Participation	<p>Horses are required to be ESNZ registered but do not require a discipline Annual Start</p> <p>Horses may compete in an age group lower than their official age but must compete H/C</p> <p>All horses must have the correct breed / pedigree / breeder information on file with ESNZ and the Event Management System - this is to ensure commentary is correct and all information needed is provided.</p>	<p>Horses are required to be ESNZ registered AND are required to have a discipline Annual Start</p> <p>All horses must have a breed passport or papers and these must be on file with ESNZ with all information correct on the ESNZ Database and Event Management System</p>

## Scoring

1. The DNZ YDH Score sheets apply.
2. Errors of course - please refer to the test sheets.
3. Flying Changes are optional in the 6yo test and may be replaced by a simple change. This will not be penalised in the overall perspective and submission mark. A well-executed simple change will be taken into equal consideration as a well-executed flying change.

## Judges for YDH Classes

Refer to Article 441.1.

1. All judges and YDH specialists must adhere to the requirements of the DNZ rules around Conflict of Interest and declare any conflict of interest when asked to officiate.
2. The judges should sit together at E or B, however when the arena layout does not provide enough room for this positioning, the judges must sit at C.
3. If there are two rounds, where possible, the first round will be judged from E or B and the second round from C.
4. Where possible the judges should provide a commentary to the public.