



# **HH Fall Invitational 2021**

## **Video Competition Guidelines**



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## Overview

Hope Haven Video Competitions provide equestrians of all abilities a cost effective avenue for competition in the comfort of their home facility and with their familiar mount. A unique advantage of our competitions is that we provide a list of compensating aids allowed for specific intellectual disabilities as well as physical impairments in order to encourage the highest level of independence for each competitor.

### Divisions Offered

1. **Open Division** - all ages and abilities.
2. **Special Olympics Division** - competitors must be registered on a Special Olympics Equestrian team that has been recognized by their provincial SO organization.

### Division Levels

There are 5 division levels offered in each of the above divisions. See page 4 for a full description and how to choose what level is appropriate for you or your competitor.

### Classes

1. Equitation Jumping
2. Freestyle Dressage
3. Gymkhana (Barrel Racing + Pole Bending)
4. Showmanship

### Awards

Ribbons will be presented to the top 8 places in each class under each division level. Judging cards will also be handed out for Dressage and Showmanship. Results will be finalized early January 2022.



## How To Enter

1. Thoroughly read through this competition package which includes how to determine a competitor's division and division level, class rules, judging considerations, video requirements and class set-up.
2. Solidify with your coach/instructor both the division as well as the division level you will be competing in.
3. Video your class(es) you are entering according to the video guidelines, class set up and pattern requirements provided. Each class must have a separate video.
4. Upload your video(s) onto your YouTube account, format title as follows:  
**Last Name, First Initial - Horse - Class # - Division Level - Month/Year**  
**Example:**  
**Smith, J - Princess - 3a - BI - 12/21**
5. Complete the Online Entry Form; includes waiver and uploading of video links. Entries will be received between **December 6th - 12th, 2021**.

## General Rules

1. Must wear an approved safety helmet for all mounted and unmounted classes.
2. Must have boots with heels or safety stirrups (eg. Devonshire).
3. Halter over bridle or cavesson with fixed ring to be used for supported riders on lead.
4. Competitors must compete in the same division and division level across all entered classes.
5. Different competitors may use the same horse.
6. Assistance (verbal comments, physical prompts, sounds, gestures) from coach, leaders or sidewalkers will result in penalties unless an allowed compensating aid is being utilized (eg. living letters or advanced caller).
7. Compensating aids used must be indicated on competitor entry form in space provided (see allowed compensating aids on page 16).
8. Spotters can be placed strategically for independent riders within the ring.
9. Coaches should not act as leaders or sidewalkers for their own athlete other than acting as an "Advanced Caller" (see compensating aid chart for explanation).



## Divisions

1. Open Division
2. Special Olympics Division

## Division Levels

The athlete's coach is required to determine what division level their athlete falls into and therefore what classes they are appropriate to enter. All decisions on division levels are in good faith and should portray where the rider is the **most independent**. In particular for supported riders, the leaders should be primarily considered a safety, and as much as possible the rider should show their ability to make transitions, steer and sustain paces.

There are 5 division levels: A, BI, BS, CI, CS. See full breakdown in chart below:

| Level | Gaits Required   | Independent (I)<br>Supported (S) | Other  |
|-------|------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| A     | Walk/Trot/Canter | Independent                      | No assistance  |
| BI    | Walk/Trot        | Independent                      | No assistance  |
| BS    | Walk/Trot        | Supported                        | Requires a horse leader and/or physical support of 1 or 2 sidewalkers. Has ability to help with transitions and steering, is almost independent at trot. |
| CI    | Walk             | Independent                      | No assistance  |
| CS    | Walk             | Supported                        | Requires a horse leader and/or physical support of 1 or 2 sidewalkers.   |



### Classes Offered Per Division Level

| Discipline            | A Level | BI Level | BS Level | CI Level | CS Level |
|-----------------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Equitation<br>Jumping | Y       | Y        | N        | Y        | Y        |
| Freestyle<br>Dressage | Y       | Y        | Y        | Y        | Y        |
| Gymkhana              | Y       | Y        | Y        | Y        | Y        |
| Showmanship           | Y       | Y        | N        | Y        | N        |



## **Class Information & Requirements**

### **Class #1a - Equitation Jumping - Open Division**

### **Class #1b - Equitation Jumping - Special Olympics Division**

#### **Division Level Requirements**

- CS & CI Levels - Walk a course of 6 ground poles, 15 cm
- BI Level - Trot a course of 6 fences, 30cm
- A Level - Canter a course of 6 fences, 60cm

#### **Rules**

- No whips (unless it's an allowed compensating aid) or spurs

#### **Judging**

- Each pole/fence is marked out of 10 points:
  - 5 for approach, aids, quiet hands, straightness
  - 5 for position and balance over jump
- Emphasis on position and effectiveness of rider, not quality of horse
- Scoring based on accuracy of course, correct approach, & position over jump.
- Errors:
  - Loss of balance/position over jump
  - Inability to maintain specified gait
  - Ineffective use of the aids
- Faults:
  - Knocking down obstacle (2 faults)
  - Knocking ground pole (2 faults) - only if rider error
  - First refusal (3 faults)
  - Second refusal (3 faults)
  - Third refusal (elimination, may finish course)
  - Off course (elimination, may finish course)
  - Not going over centre section of pole (up to 10 penalty points)
- General Deductions:
  - BI riders - if poles are moved to ground = 15 point deduction overall
  - A & BI riders - if jumps are moved down to x's = 10 point deduction
  - No attempt at 2-point position = 5 point deduction per fence
  - 3 strides over allotted gait for that division = 5 point deduction per occurrence

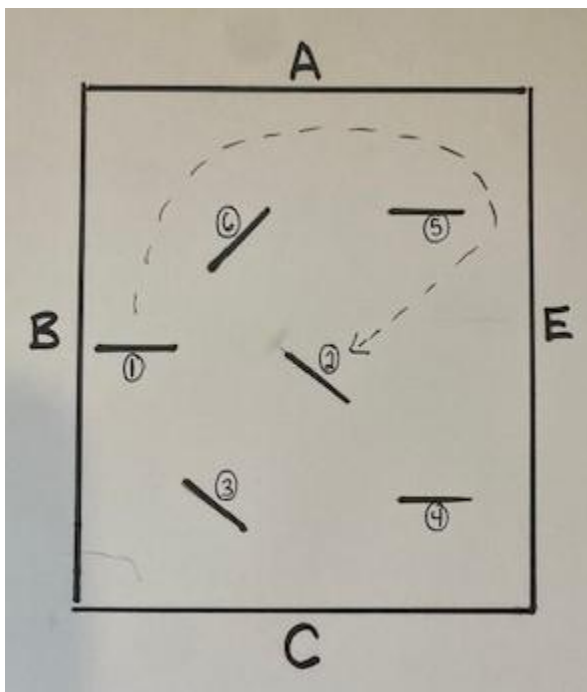


## Video Requirements

- Video taken from A.
- If using a phone, make sure to shoot it horizontally.
- Zoom must remain fixed for the entire class, panning of camera allowed to keep rider in centre of the shot.
- Start recording 5 seconds prior to passing C before the first fence, and stop recording once passed C after the last fence.

## Class Set Up

- Approx 25m x 45m required, fenced or enclosed arena
- Fences to be set at the following verticals for each division:
  - A = 60cm
  - BI = 30cm
  - CI & CS = 15cm (ground pole)
- Note - in General Deduction instructions above, fences for Level A may be moved down to x's and Level BI to x's or ground poles however they will be given appropriate deductions.
- Distances:
  - Fences 2-3 = Horses 32', Ponies 28' (2 strides)
  - Fences 4-5 = Horses 52', Ponies 48' (4 strides)
  - All other fences placed as per diagram







## **Class #2a - Freestyle Dressage - Open Division**

## **Class #2b - Freestyle Dressage - Special Olympics Division**

### Division Levels:

- A, BI, BS, CI, CS

### Rules

- All dressage tests may be called; movements must only be called once, any repetition by caller considered unauthorized assistance
- Voice - use of voice, including clucking, is a deduction of at least 1-2 marks for the movement where this occurred
- Trot - may be ridden sitting or rising

### Judging

- Each of the required movements will receive a score out of 10, with certain movements in each level receiving a coefficient of 2 (marked as \*2).
- Additional scores out of 10 for artistic impression at all levels include:
  - Harmony between horse and rider
  - Choreography (design cohesiveness, use of arena, balance, and creativity)
  - Degree of difficulty
  - Music suitability (timing of movements, gaits, and transitions with the music)

### Video Requirements

- Video taken from C.
- If using a phone, make sure to shoot it horizontally.
- Zoom must remain fixed for the entire class, panning of camera allowed to keep rider in centre of the shot.
- Music must be playing near the camera and loud enough to be heard well on video.
- Start recording 5 seconds prior to entering at A and 5 seconds after end of test.

### Set Up

- 40m x 20m
- All letters marked at correct locations



Test Requirements for each Division Level:

**Level CI & CS (Walk only) \*\*Maximum 4 minutes\*\***

| Required Movements  | Allowed Movements   | Forbidden Movements  |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free walk (20m continuous)</li> <li>• 10m circle right</li> <li>• 10m circle left</li> <li>• 5m loop left</li> <li>• 5m loop right</li> <li>• 3-loop-serpentine right or left *2</li> <li>• Change of direction across diagonal</li> <li>• Halt and salute on the centerline, first and final</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20m circles</li> <li>• 15m circles</li> <li>• Voltes</li> <li>• Figure of 8</li> <li>• Bending lines/loops</li> <li>• Short diagonals</li> <li>• Leg yielding</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any movements performed at the trot</li> <li>• Any movements performed at the canter</li> <li>• Any movement or transition performed above First Level</li> </ul> |

**Level BI & BS (Walk/Trot) \*\*Maximum 4 minutes\*\***

| Required Movements  | Allowed Movements  | Forbidden Movements  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free walk (20m continuous)</li> <li>• 10m circle at the walk or trot right</li> <li>• 10m circle at the walk or trot left</li> <li>• 20m circle at the trot right</li> <li>• 20m circle at the trot left</li> <li>• 5m loop at the trot right *2</li> <li>• 5m loop at the trot left *2</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 15m circles</li> <li>• Voltes</li> <li>• Figure of 8</li> <li>• Bending lines/loops</li> <li>• Short diagonals</li> <li>• Leg yielding</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any movements performed at the canter</li> <li>• Lengthening of stride at the trot</li> <li>• Any movement or transition performed above First Level</li> </ul> |



|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change of direction across diagonal</li> <li>• Halt and salute on the centerline, first and final</li> </ul> |  |  |
|---|--|--|

**Level A (Walk/Trot/Canter) \*\*Maximum 5 minutes\*\***

| Required Movements  | Allowed Movements   | Forbidden Movements  |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free walk (20m continuous) *2</li> <li>• Medium walk (20m continuous)</li> <li>• 10m circle working trot right</li> <li>• 10m circle working trot left</li> <li>• 3-loop-serpentine working trot, right or left *2</li> <li>• Lengthen stride at the trot left (20m continuous)</li> <li>• Lengthen stride at the trot right (20m continuous)</li> <li>• Working canter right (40m continuous)</li> <li>• Working canter left (40m continuous)</li> <li>• Change of direction across diagonal</li> <li>• Halt and salute on the centerline, first and final</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20m circles</li> <li>• 15m circles</li> <li>• Voltes</li> <li>• Figure of 8</li> <li>• Bending lines/loops</li> <li>• Short diagonals</li> <li>• Leg yielding</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lengthening of stride at the canter</li> <li>• Any circle smaller than 20m at the canter</li> <li>• Any movement or transition performed above First Level</li> </ul> |



## **Class #3a - Gymkhana - Open Division**

## **Class #3b - Gymkhana - Special Olympics Division**

This class is a combination of two timed events, Barrel Racing and Pole Bending. Times for each event are added together and then according to videos, our judges will subtract penalties from times to produce a total score.

Division Levels:

- A, BI, BS, CI, CS

Rules

- No whips (unless it's an approved compensating aid) or spurs
- Courses can be ridden from the right or left.
- Horse must be in movement through start/finish.
- Timer starts and stops when the horse's nose passes the marked start/finish line.
- 5 second penalty for:
  - knocking over barrel/pole
  - performs 3 strides over the allotted gait for that division (per occurrence)
  - no visible effort by rider to steer the course
  - no visible effort by rider to pick up and control pace of horse
- Disqualification for:
  - failure to follow course
  - failure to cross start/finish line between markers
  - excessive use of legs as determined by judge

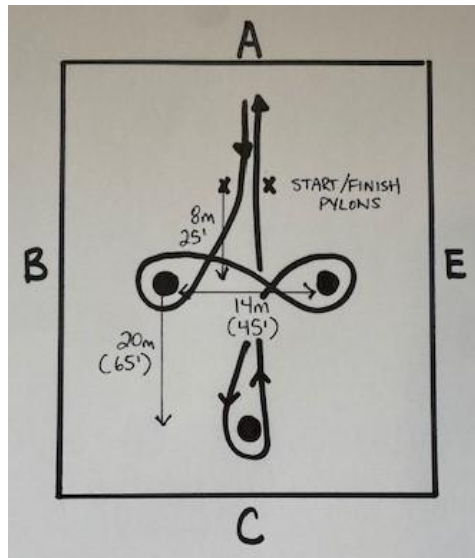
Video Requirements

- Video taken from beside start/finish line in order to view horse's nose pass the line. Phone should be filming horizontally.
- Zoom must remain fixed for the entire class, panning of camera allowed to keep rider in centre of the shot.
- Start recording 5 seconds before passing through start and 5 seconds after crossing through finish.
- **\*\*Verbalize or show clocked time before stopping video.**



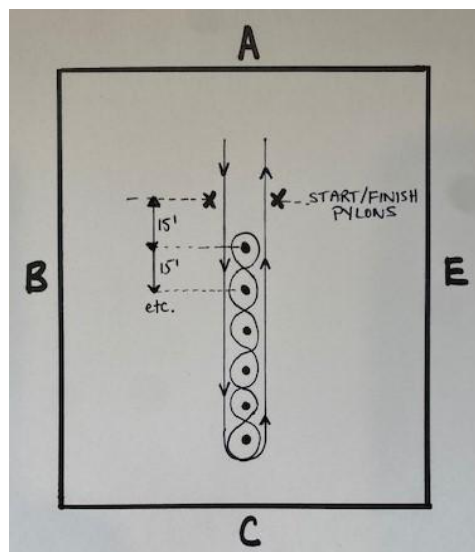
### Barrel Racing - Set Up

- 3 barrels set in a triangle pattern with barrels 1 and 2 set 14m (45') apart and 8m (25') from the start line. Barrel 3 is 20m (65') from 1 and 2.
- Start/finish line clearly marked with pylons.



### Pole Bending - Set Up

- 6 poles set in a straight line set 15' apart. The 1st pole is also 15' from the start/finish line.
- Start/finish line clearly marked with pylons.





## **Class #4a - Showmanship - Open Division**

## **Class # 4b - Showmanship - Special Olympics Division**

Unmounted class, judged on both presentation of horse and athlete as well as horse handling skills.

Division Levels:

- A, BI, CI
- **\*\*For competitors who are NOT also doing a mounted class, you may choose whichever Level is most appropriate for your ground skills.**

Judging

- Appearance of horse and exhibitor (20 points):
  - Grooming
    - clean, well brushed
    - Eyes, ears, muzzle, nostrils, between legs and around tail
    - Mane, tail, forelock and wither tufts must be clean and free of tangles; can be braided if desired
  - Tack
    - Neat, clean and in good repair
    - Either a bridle or halter of leather or nylon
    - No saddle
  - Exhibitor
    - Clothes and person, neat and clean
    - Appropriate tack-style clothes, jackets optional
- Showing the horse in ring (60 points):
  - Leading Expectations (40 points)
    - Right hand 20-30cm from halter/bit
    - Stay on left side of horse beside neck or eye to eye
    - Excess lead held safely, not loose and flapping
    - Light control of horse, minimum pressure on lead, minimum urging, should move readily and freely
    - Always in position to keep eye on judge
    - Always set horse up square
    - Fault for changing hands on lead
    - Fault for touching horse



- Poise, alertness and merits (20 points):
  - Aware of position of judge at all times
  - Athlete remains attentive and not distracted
  - Athlete is businesslike, friendly and courteous

### Video Requirements

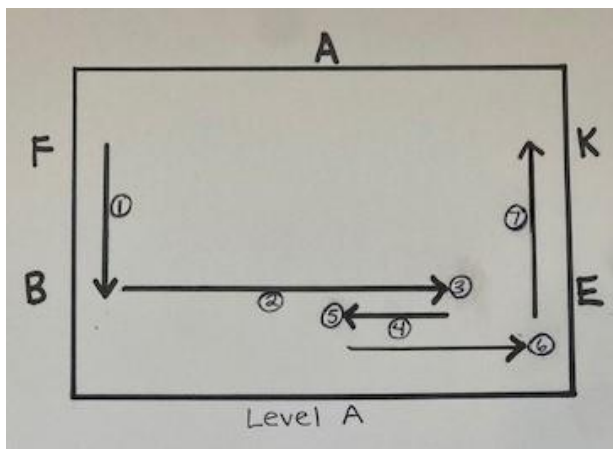
- Video taken from A.
- Zoom must remain fixed for the entire class, panning of camera allowed to keep rider in centre of the shot. Phone should be filming horizontally.
- Start camera 5 seconds before first instruction and stop 5 seconds after last instruction.

### Class Set Up

- Space needed is approximately 25m by 20m (half of an arena).
- See patterns below for each Division Level.
- For quarter method inspection, have coach/volunteer act as a pretend judge moving into required positions in order for video judge to see competitor respond appropriately (left and right front quarters and hind quarters).

### Level A

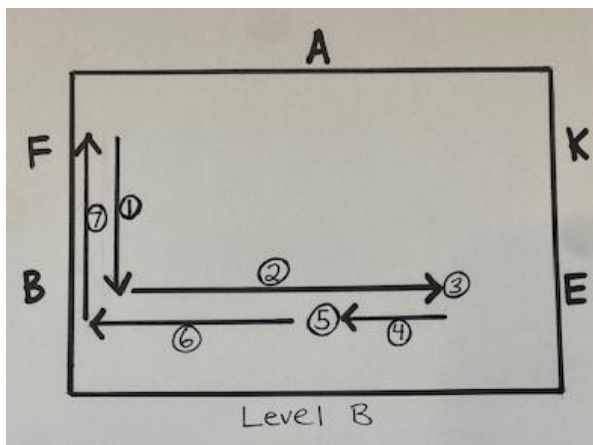
- 1 - Enter at walk from F to B
- 2 - Turn left and proceed to the  $\frac{1}{4}$  line
- 3 - Halt for quarter method inspection \*volunteer needed to be inspector\*
- 4 - Back up 4 steps
- 5 - Perform 180 degree pivot on haunches to right, then back to left (end facing E)
- 6 - Proceed at a walk to E and turn left
- 7 - Trot from E to K and exit





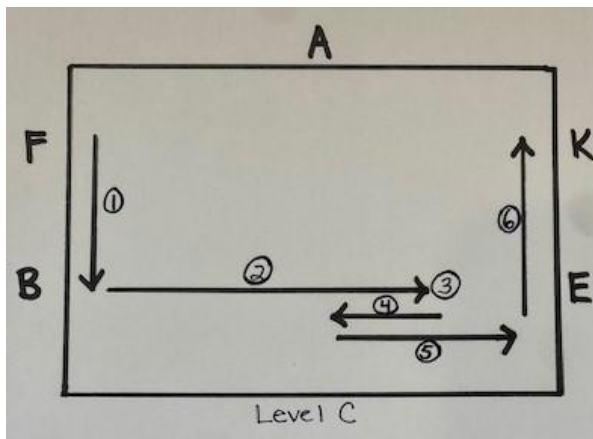
### Level BI

- 1 - Enter at walk from F to B
- 2 - Turn left at B and proceed to  $\frac{1}{4}$  line
- 3 - Halt for quarter method inspection \*volunteer needed to be inspector\*
- 4 - Back up 4 steps
- 5 - Perform a 180 degree pivot to right on haunches
- 6 - Proceed at a walk to B and turn right
- 7 - Trot from B to F and exit



### Level CI

- 1 - Enter at walk from F to B
- 2 - Turn left and proceed to the  $\frac{1}{4}$  line
- 3 - Halt for quarter method inspection \*volunteer needed to be inspector\*
- 4 - Back up 4 steps
- 5 - Proceed at walk to E and turn left
- 6 - Walk from E to K and exit







## Compensating Aids

All aids listed below are for use in all classes as deemed appropriate.

### Intellectual Disabilities

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Memory</b>   | Everyone with an ID allowed a caller   |
| <b>Spatial Awareness (unmarked transition points (eg. x), lines, circles, corners)</b>                                | Pylons, shavings, poles (minimal)  |
| <b>Left-Right Confusion</b>   | Bracelets on wrists, coloured ribbons on reins   |
| <b>Obtaining Correct Rein Length</b>  | Rainbow reins or looped reins  |
| <b>Illiterate with letters</b>  | Animal pictures or colours at letters  |
| <b>Requires specific, 1 step instructions (unable to complete more complex instruction such as "20m circle at A")</b> | "Advanced caller" - coach walking near rider to call 1 step instructions such as transitions, turns and other physical steps needed to complete task. (eg. turn left, halt, walk on, 2 -point) |

### Physical Disabilities

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Visually impaired</b>                        | Living letters   |
| <b>Hearing Impaired</b>                         | Cue cards in replace of verbal calling:<br>1=walk 2=sitting trot 3=posting trot<br>4=canter 0=reverse stop sign=halt |
| <b>Limited use of legs</b>                      | 1 or 2 Dressage whips  |
| <b>Difficulty maintaining grip on reins</b>     | Looped, rubber, ladder   |
| <b>Positioning needs or safety of hand hold</b> | Pad and surcingle options  |
| <b>Balance deficits</b>                         | -Hard hand hold<br>-Sticky seat saver/gel pad<br>-Hands off spotter follow as sidwalker                              |
| <b>Sensory impairment in saddle region</b>      | Seat saver   |



If you have any questions, please contact our Program Manager, Robyn Allen ([program@hopehavencentre.org](mailto:program@hopehavencentre.org) or 519-986-1247).