



HH Spring Invitational 2023

Video Competition Guidelines



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Overview

Hope Haven Video Competitions provide equestrians of all (dis)abilities and diverse needs an opportunity 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 to assist individuals with intellectual disabilities as well as physical impairments to reach the highest level of independence.

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 6 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. Dressage
2. Hunter Over Fences
3. Working Trail
4. Working Trail UNMOUNTED

Awards

Ribbons will be presented to the top 8 places in each class under each division level. Results will be finalized by early July.



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 - 6/23
5. Complete the Online Entry Form; includes waiver and uploading of video links. Entries will be received between **June 5th - 11th, 2023**.

General Rules

1. Must wear an approved safety helmet for all mounted and unmounted classes.
2. Must have boots with heels or enclosed toe stirrups.
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 11).
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 6 division levels: A, BI, BS, CI, CS, UM. See full breakdown in chart below:

Level	Gaits Required	Independent (I) 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.
UM	Unmounted	Independent or supported	May be supported for safety by a long lead on opposite side of participant.



Classes Offered Per Division Level

Discipline	A Level	BI Level	BS Level	CI Level	CS Level	UM Level
Dressage	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N
Hunter Over Fences	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N
Working Trail	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Working Trail UNMOUNTED	N	N	N	N	N	Y

Class Information & Requirements

Class #1a - Dressage - Open Division

Class #1b - Dressage - Special Olympics Division

Division Levels:

- A, BI, CI, CS

Rules

- All dressage tests may be called; movements must only be called twice, any further repetition considered unauthorized assistance. No use of headset unless listed as a compensating aid for hearing impaired.
- Use of voice, including clucking, is a deduction of -2 for the movement where this occurred (unless listed as a compensating aid).
- Trot may be ridden sitting or rising.

Judging

- See test/judges card for full breakdown.

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.
- Make sure the horse and rider are not lost in the video between H and M.
- 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

Tests

- Both Open Division and Special Olympics Division will use the same **RDA tests** indicated below.

Please refer to your division level below and click on the corresponding test as well as the test diagram:

Division Level A

[RDA Grade 6 Championship Test - Walk/Trot/Canter Test Diagram](#)

Division Level BI & BS

[RDA Grade 2 Championship Test - Walk/Trot Test Diagram](#)

Division Level CI & CS

[RDA Grade 1 Championship Test - Walk Test Diagram](#)



Class #2a - Hunter Over Fences - Open Division

Class #2b - Hunter Over Fences - Special Olympics Division

Due to the nature of video competitions, this hunter class is limited to 6 fences with basic set up requirements in order to be accessible to all centres.

Division Level Requirements

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

Rules

- Wraps and boots on horses legs are permitted and advised.
- No whips or crops unless it's an approved compensating aid (see page 11).
- No spurs.

Judging

- Each pole/fence is marked out of 10 points
- Emphasis on effectiveness of rider, not quality of horse
- Scoring based on accuracy of course, correct approach, straightness, corners, position over jump, and horse accepting quiet aids
- Faults:
 - Knocking down obstacle (2 faults)
 - Knocking ground pole (2 faults)
 - First refusal (3 faults)
 - Second refusal (3 faults)
 - Third refusal (elimination, may finish course)
 - Off course (elimination, may finish course)
- 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
 - Use of a crop or whip (for different reasons than an allowable compensating aid) = 10 point deduction

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.
- Start recording at least 5 sec before fence 1, stopping 5 seconds past fence 6.

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 = 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.

Diagram

Appendix A - Hunter Over Fences Course



Class #3a - Working Trail - Open Division

Class #3b - Working Trail - Special Olympics Division

Division Levels:

- A, BI, BS, CI, CS

Rules

- Wraps and boots on horses legs are permitted and advised.
- No whips or crops unless it's an appropriate compensating aid (see page 11).
- No spurs.

Judging

- Rider's ability to guide the horse through a designated course. Credits given to horses negotiating the obstacles correctly while responding to the rider's cues.
- Errors:
 - Excessive amounts of time approaching or at an obstacle will be penalized.
 - If a horse balks or avoids an element (with or without leader) it's a -2 deduction. They are allowed 1 more attempt and if missed it's another -2 and then they must move on.
 - Off course = elimination but may finish course
 - Taking obstacle in wrong direction or from wrong side
 - Taking obstacle in a different manner than described in pattern
 - Skipping an obstacle
 - Negotiating obstacles in wrong sequence
 - Use of a crop or whip (for different reasons than an allowable compensating aid) = 10 point deduction

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 just before entering at A, stop recording after exiting at A.

Class Set Up

- Minimum 25m x 45m required, fenced or enclosed arena
- Equipment Required:
 - 2 barrels to mark the figure of 8 (approx. 5 strides apart)
 - Mailbox (just before B) - Ring or letter placed in mailbox
 - Bridge at X (or 6 poles each max 2 ft apart)



- 3 pylons spread out from E-H - leave room to transition after E
- Barrel/post at C (required for Level CI/CS only)
- 6 poles to form a maze in the corner between C-M
- 6 bending poles or posts and 3 cups/rings on the diagonal from R-K (first set of poles starting 4 feet below X with 3 strides between each set of poles. Sets of poles approx 4 feet apart)
- Log (or pile of poles, or cavaletti)
- 2 large pylons and 1 flag-5 strides apart on an angle from K to the finish

Diagrams

Appendix B - Working Trail Course Level A

Appendix C - Working Trail Course Level BI/BS

Appendix D - Working Trail Course Level CI/CS/UM

Class #4a - Working Trail UNMOUNTED - Open Division

Class #4b - Working Trail UNMOUNTED - Special Olympics Division

Follow same guidelines as Class #3. See Appendix D.



Compensating Aids

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

Intellectual Disabilities

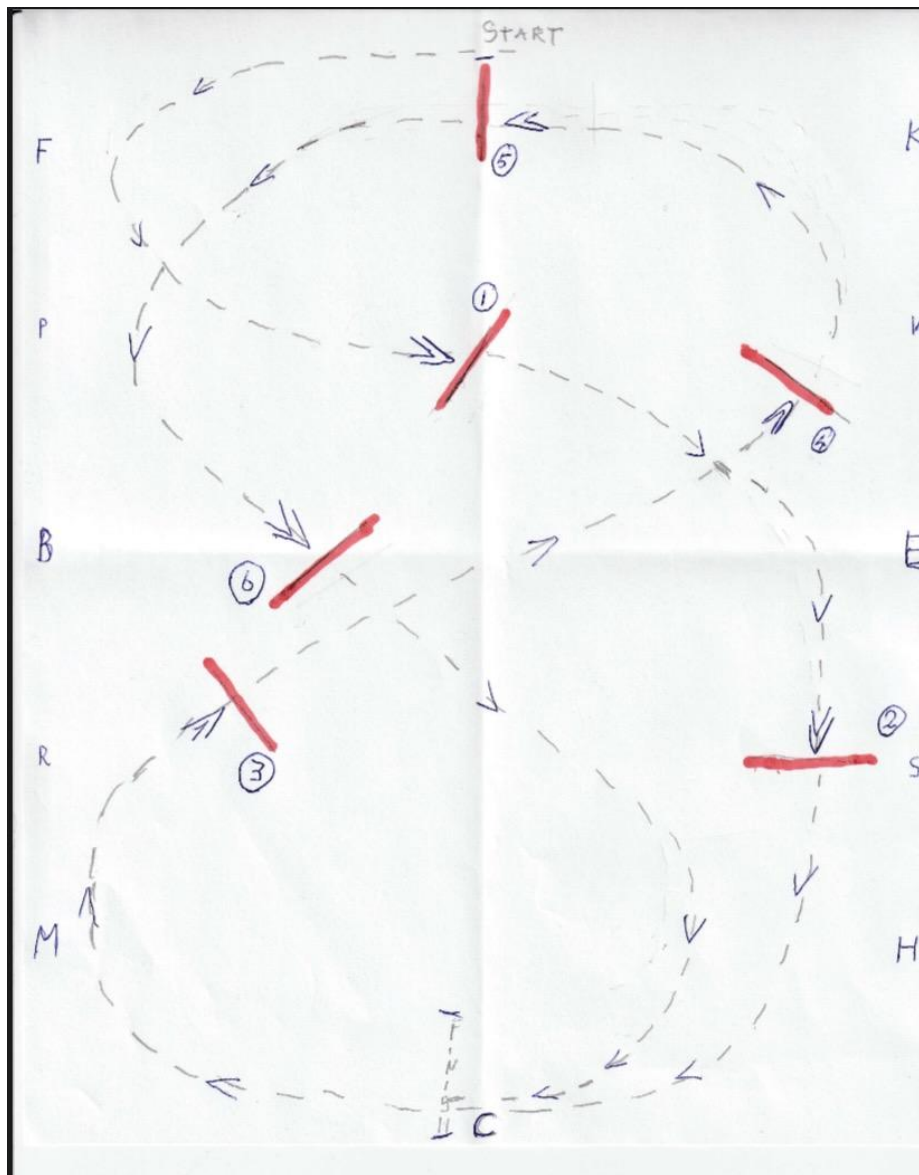
Memory	- Everyone with an ID allowed a caller - Numbering of jumps or elements
Spatial Awareness (unmarked transition points (eg. x), lines, circles, corners)	Pylons, shavings, poles (minimal)
Left-Right Confusion	Bracelets on wrists, coloured ribbons on reins
Obtaining Correct Rein Length	Rainbow reins or looped reins
Illiterate with letters	Animal pictures or colours at letters
Requires specific, 1 step instructions (unable to complete more complex instruction such as "20m circle at A")	"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

Visually impaired	Living letters or elements
Hearing Impaired	- Cue cards in place of verbal calling: (1=walk 2=sitting trot 3=posting trot 4=canter 0=reverse stop sign=halt) - Headset for caller - ASL interpreter for caller
Limited use of legs	- 1 or 2 Dressage whips - Use of voice
Difficulty maintaining grip on reins	Looped, rubber, ladder
Positioning needs or safety of hand hold	Pad and surcingle options
Balance deficits	- Hard hand hold - Sticky seat saver/gel pad - Hands off spotter follow as sidewalker
Sensory impairment in saddle region	Seat saver



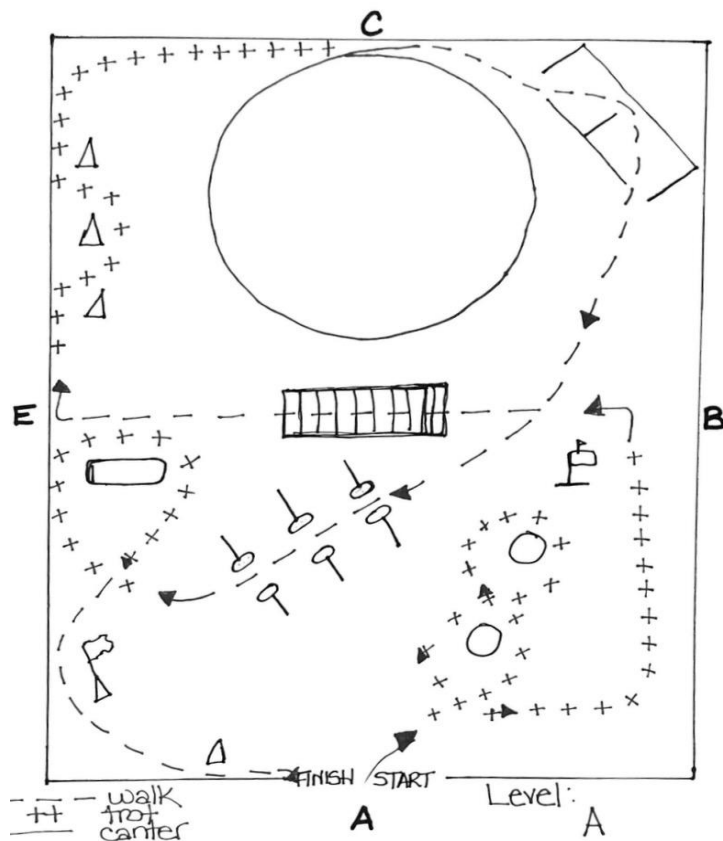
Appendix A Hunter Over Fences Course - All Levels





Appendix B Working Trail Course - Level A

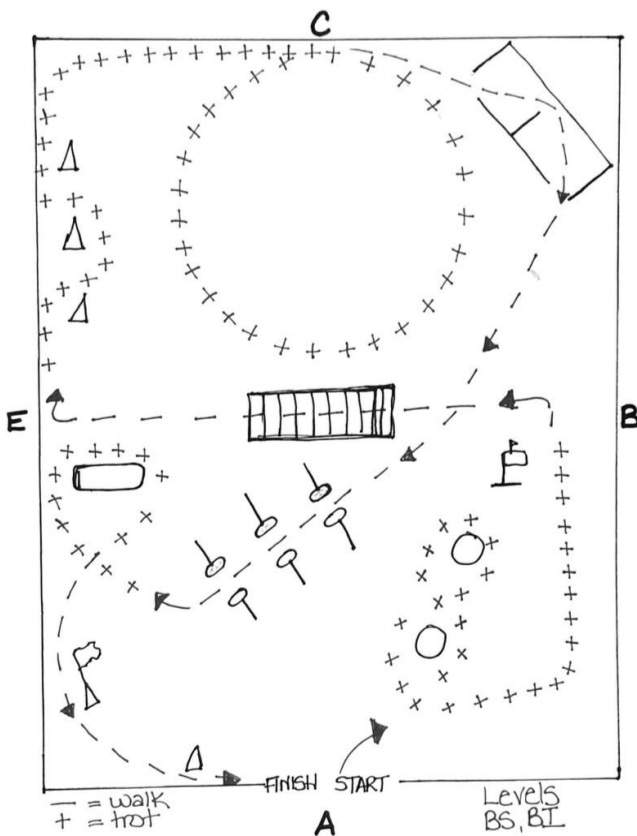
1. Enter in trot at A, complete the figure of 8.
2. Continue to F and turn left.
3. Halt at mailbox before B (aligning rider's leg with mailbox).
4. Continue at a walk, turn left at B and proceed over the bridge.
5. At E turn right, pick up trot and weave through pylons.
6. Pick up canter between H-C, at C canter a 15 m circle. Walk at C.
7. After C, navigate through pole maze.
8. Continue to the bending poles. Halt at each set of poles to transfer the cup/ring from one pole to the other.
9. Pick up a trot and circle around log (can also be made with poles or cavaletti).
10. Walk to the pylon, remove the flag, continue to the next pylon to deposit the flag.
11. Continue to A and exit.





Appendix C Working Trail Course - Levels BS, BI

1. Enter in trot at A, complete the figure of 8.
2. Continue to F and turn left.
3. Halt at mailbox before B (aligning rider's leg with mailbox).
4. Continue at a walk, turn left at B and proceed over the bridge.
5. At E turn right, pick up trot and weave through pylons.
6. Continue to C and trot a 15 m circle. Walk at C.
7. After C, navigate through pole maze.
8. Continue to the bending poles. Halt at each set of poles to transfer the cup/ring from one pole to the other.
9. Pick up a trot and circle around log (can also be made with poles or cavaletti).
10. Walk to the pylon, remove the flag, continue to the next pylon to deposit the flag.
11. Continue to A and exit.





Appendix D Working Trail Course - Levels CS, CI, UM

1. Enter in a walk at A, complete the figure of 8.
2. Proceed to letter F and turn left.
3. Halt at mailbox before B, open and take a letter/ring.
4. Proceed in a walk, turn left at B and proceed over bridge.
5. Turn right at E, weave through pylons.
6. At C, halt at the barrel/post and deposit the letter/ring.
7. Proceed in a walk and navigate through pole maze.
8. Continue to the bending poles. Halt at each set of poles to transfer the cup/ring from one pole to the other.
9. Circle around log (can also be made with poles or cavaletti).
10. Walk to the pylon, remove the flag, continue to the next pylon to deposit the flag.
11. Continue to A and exit.

