

WESTERN DRESSAGE UK

Judging Guidance Notes

Horse & Rider should appear relaxed and in harmony with no tension and horse performing as if on own accord.

Horse - natural head carriage with face either vertical or slightly in front not behind, and nose level with point of shoulder.

Rider - correct head/shoulder/hip/heel alignment (as English). Legs should not be forward as normal Western even in halt.

Reins - split reins must be crossed with tails on opposite sides of the neck. Riding 2-handed with a curb bit is permissible but each rein must be held separately. When using a snaffle bit each rein should be held separately but may be bridged if preferred.

Contact - should be light, reins not draped, natural outline.

Salute - either Western nod or as English (reins into one hand, drop arm by side, incline head) otherwise counts as error.

Scoring - mark as x.0 or x.5:

10 - Excellent

9 - Very good

8 - Good

7 - Fairly good

6 - Satisfactory

5 - Marginal (sufficient)

4 - Insufficient

3 - Fairly bad

2 - Bad

1 - Very bad

0 - Not performed or practically none

Error - 2 penalties first time, 4 second time, D/Q third time

D/Q - all four legs outside designated arena.

Comments - always for 5 or below, usually for 6, higher optional.