



INFORMATION ABOUT TEAMS AND OTHER COMPETITIONS FOR ELSTEAD RIDING CLUB MEMBERS

We are always pleased to hear from members who would like to have a go at team events.

Team events are great fun and a good way to get to know other members, the club pays the entry fees for team competitions and every member who represents the club is presented with a 'team member' rosette at our annual awards ceremony (which follows on from the annual general meeting) at the end of the year.

There is a wide range of competitions including dressage, show jumping, horse trials and even a fun quiz. Competitions are held at various levels from novice (e.g. preliminary dressage and jumping starting at 0.80m) to more advanced (e.g. elementary dressage and horse trials equivalent to BE Novice).

Some team events are just one-off 'friendly' competitions, while others are qualifiers for various championships. The London & South East (L&SE) Championships are aimed at the less experienced horse and/or rider while the British Riding Clubs' National competitions provide opportunities for both novice and more experienced members.

The L&SE team competitions are: horse trials, show jumping, riding test and dressage. The same horse can enter up to three of the different competitions but is not allowed to compete in both horse trials and show jumping in the same year. L&SE teams comprise four team members with the best three scores to count – each team may include one junior member. There is also a separate L&SE Dressage to Music Championship with individual and pairs classes.

There are separate junior and senior qualifiers for the various national championships:

- Indoor Novice Show Jumping (qualifier usually in February, championship at Hartpury College in Gloucestershire at end of March/early April)
- Winter Team Dressage (qualifier usually in the Autumn and championship at Hartpury College in Gloucestershire the following Spring - end of March/early April)
- Festival of the Horse – includes a range of individual showing competitions as well as Novice (0.90m), Intermediate (1.00m) and Pairs Challenge (0.90m) over a course which has both show jumps and cross country fences (championship at Aston-le-Walls, Northamptonshire at end of May/early June)
- Horse Trials: novice (equivalent to BE90), intermediate (equivalent to BE100) and open (equivalent to BE Novice). Championship at Aston-le-Walls in early August. The senior qualifiers and the junior qualifier and championship run as one-day events, while at the championships the senior novice is run as a two day event and the senior open and intermediate as three day events which include roads and tracks and steeplechase phases.
- Novice Dressage (prelim tests), Open Dressage (novice/elementary), Medium Dressage (individuals only), Pairs Dressage, Rural Riders Dressage (great fun – six in the arena at the same time!), Riding Test, Style Jumping, Novice/Intermediate/Open Show Jumping. Various qualifier dates during the summer, championship normally the second weekend of September at Lincolnshire Showground.

For most national qualifiers, you can also enter as an individual. Where this is the case, team members are automatically included as individuals. For individual competitions (e.g. Medium Dressage and DTM) or where a member wants to compete as an individual rather than a team member, the cost is borne by the individual and not the Club.

We aim to give all members the opportunity to be in a team (teams are not just for 'experts') and it does help if you contact us and say what you are interested in. All we ask is that you give some of your time to help at shows, and when you are contacted, you return our calls ASAP so we can ensure we get the teams lists out in good time! Please make a note in your diaries of the dates of the Qualifiers and Championships (which are on the website and in your newsletters) and do please keep these free - especially once you have asked to compete at a particular qualifier!

Interested in team events? Please contact Penny Jann on 01483 414820 or 07766 337942 or e-mail penny@elsteadridingclub.co.uk if you want to be included in a team or for more information.

TO COMPETE IN TEAM EVENTS, YOUR HORSE MUST HAVE A VALID FLU CERTIFICATE

For all national qualifiers, the horse must have a valid flu certificate which must accompany the horse to the qualifier and any subsequent championship – failure to do so will incur elimination.

This means that the horse must have had two primary vaccinations, the second of which must be no less than 21 days and no more than 92 days after the first. A booster must be given between 150 and 215 days after that second vaccination. Thereafter the horse must have annual boosters not more than one year apart (the anniversary of the previous vaccination is acceptable but not advisable as if you wait till the last minute and then go one day over, the certificate will not be valid). None of these vaccinations must have been given on the day of the competition or on any of the 6 days before the competition.

However from 1 January 2011, providing that a horse has been given the first two vaccinations correctly and there are no errors in the annual vaccinations for the past five calendar years, then the horse will be accepted for BRC qualifiers and championships.

In addition the flu certificate must be fully completed by a vet and must show the name under which the horse competes and/or is registered as well as any stable name. If the vaccination record is contained in more than one document (i.e. passport and separate flu certificate) then both must be taken to the event.

If you have not represented the club before, please send a copy of your horse's vaccination record to Penny for checking. Scanned copy is acceptable by e-mail to penny@elsteadridingclub.co.uk