



**VIRTUAL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
SATURDAY 29TH & SUNDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2022  
**2022 PROGRAMME**





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**FEI**  
EUROPEAN  
CHAMPIONSHIPS  
HARTPURY  
2022  
DRESSAGE & EVENTING  
YOUNG RIDERS & JUNIORS

## Did you know?

*We are hosting the FEI Dressage and Eventing European Championships for Young Riders and Juniors 2022*

  
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## A MESSAGE FROM THE **RDA CHAIR**



Following the success of the inaugural Virtual Championships last year I am delighted to welcome you to Virtual National Championships 2022.

This is now a standing fixture in our calendar as



it offers everyone the opportunity to participate in an RDA championship on their regular horse in their familiar surroundings. We have had over 527 entries into 65 classes, so we have a jam-packed couple of days over the weekend.

I recognise the huge amount of time, passion and hope that goes in to preparing for every one of those entries – competitors, helpers and horses all play a crucial part and it is that level of effort that makes for a competition with real heart. I very much look forward

to seeing as many entries as I can.

Last but not least, I'd like to thank all the sponsors, supporters and volunteers that make this Championships possible, I hope that you will feel proud to be part of such an inspiring event.

*Rachel Medill*

**RACHEL MEDILL MBE**  
RDA Chair



## HOW TO WATCH:

We will be showing the top three competitors from each section in each class in reverse order during the Virtual event on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th October 2022.

Watch live via Facebook [facebook.com/RDANational](https://www.facebook.com/RDANational), YouTube [youtube.com/user/RDANational](https://www.youtube.com/user/RDANational), or on our RDA website [rda.org.uk](https://www.rda.org.uk).

To see when classes are taking place please visit the timetable on **pages 22-25**.



## DEAR COMPETITORS

What a year 2022 has been. The return to Hartpury for the National Championships, sadly only 2 days due to the very hot weather, but we were privileged to see a very high standard of riding in all disciplines.

The introduction of the virtual championships in 2021 was a great success and gave many participants a chance to compete who would not be able to make it to Hartpury.

On this success i am delighted to report that the Virtual Championships are now an annual event.

I hope you have all enjoyed entering this year and my thanks go to all the judges who have given so much time judging the entries.

I hope you will all be watching the Championships on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th October.

Anne

**ANNE CONEY**  
Chair National RDA  
Championships

## ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE



**Virtual Championships  
Chairman:**  
Anne Coney



**Virtual Championships  
Secretary:**  
Fiona Harris



**Secretary Support:**  
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## DISCIPLINE & DEPARTMENT LEADS

**Carriage Driving:**  
Eileen Cornish

**Musical Ride &  
Carriage Drive:**  
Anne Coney

**Showjumping:**  
Sally Anne O'Neill

**Countryside  
Challenge:**  
Sue Mack

**Showing:**  
Ginny Oakley Pope

**Vaulting:**  
Lizzie Bennett

**Dressage:**  
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# CARRIAGE DRIVING

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Carriage Driving has been an important part of RDA since 1975 and there are now around 60 groups throughout the UK giving driving opportunities to over 1000 drivers. It is enjoyed by people who can not ride due to disability, or who prefer a different kind of equine challenge.

Groups have specialised vehicles, some of which take both ambulant and non-ambulant drivers. Wheelchairs, and adaptations to the harness, cater for the needs of all.

We are very lucky to have so many volunteers helping at Carriage Driving Groups to ensure that each driver enjoys their chosen aspect of the sport.

Drivers are accompanied by a knowledgeable and competent Carriage Driving Coach who has a second set of reins to assist as required. The groups drive in indoor arenas, outdoor arenas, on tracks, in woods and on the road depending on their venue and their facilities. All are different! Drivers enjoy working for their proficiency tests, practicing dressage movements and tests, driving through cones or natural obstacles such as groups of trees, and competing at both local shows and the National Championships.

This year, the Virtual National Championships is running as an addition to the National

Championships at Hartpury. All drivers were eligible to enter both competitions. Those unable to attend the latter were still able to take part in this virtual competition.

We offer three classes for Novice, Intermediate and Open competitors who will drive the dressage phase again this year. At the 2022 Championships at Hartpury, the competitors drove a Conobstacle course with 2 obstacles and 10 sets of cones.

The objective of the driven dressage test is to judge the freedom, regularity of paces, harmony, impulsion, suppleness, lightness, ease of movement and correct bending of the horses on the move. Drivers will also be judged on style, accuracy and general control of their horses, and on their dress, condition of their harness and carriage and the presentation of the whole turnout.



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# COUNTRYSIDE CHALLENGE

SUPPORTED BY TREFOIL GUILD 

**W**ith its focus on achievement, progression and enjoyment, the Countryside Challenge is a development of skills acquired in RDA sessions.

The course is based on school movements, dressage, showjumping, endurance and of course fun, designed to both stimulate and challenge the rider.

During the course, riders have the opportunity to put their skills to the test through challenging tasks, bending around obstacles, steering through an archway, and walking along the bridge path before going through the gate. Steering, balance and confidence are all put to the test whilst

encountering sheep, cows, hens and a duck pond!

Classes are split into junior, senior and open sections. We are holding six classes:

- Led with 1 side walker
- Led or 1 side walker
- Independently ridden
- Visually Impaired: Led or 1 side walker
- Visually Impaired: Led with 1 side walker
- Visually Impaired: Independent





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# DRESSAGE

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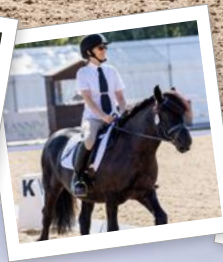
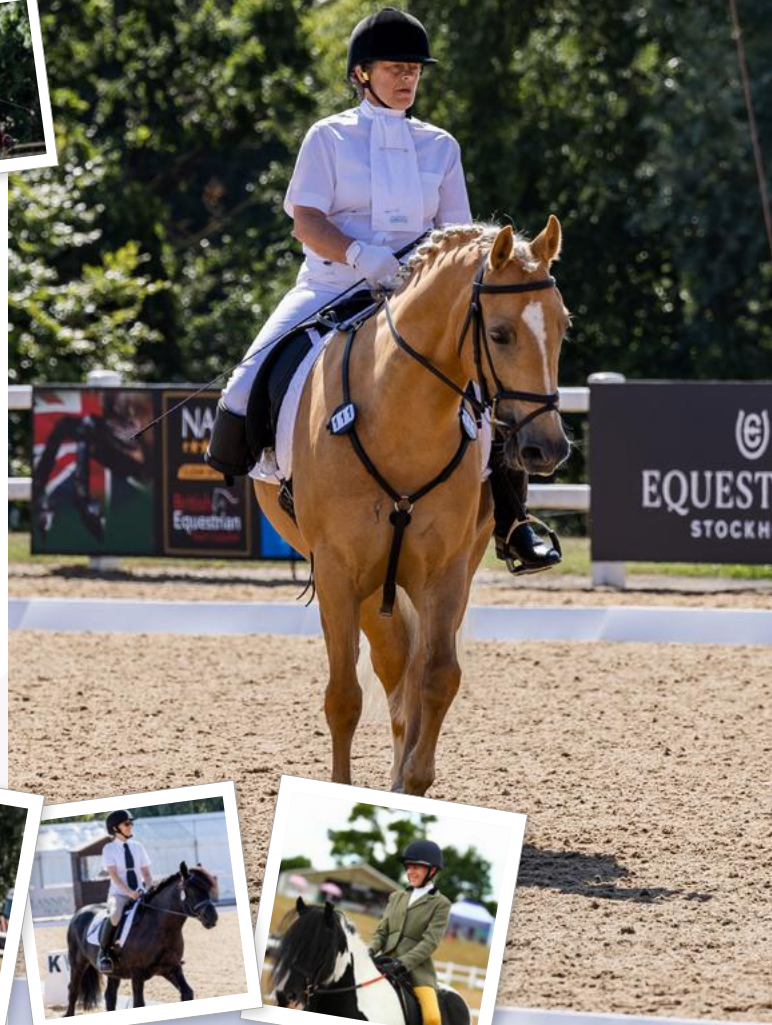
**D**ressage offers the opportunity for riders to show a judge, parents, friends and helpers what has been achieved during RDA sessions. It can also help a coach to set goals, allowing the riders to demonstrate often hidden reservoirs of determination to achieve and can vividly show the benefits of previous instruction.

Dressage plays a huge part of the Virtual National Championships. There are a variety of classes on offer this year, both Championships Classes and Freestyle Classes.

Participants ride a specific test with a predetermined pattern in a 20m x 40m arena. A judge marks the test, giving marks out of

ten for each movement set out in the test. At the end of the test, the marks are added up and the winner is the combination with the highest score.

Dependent on their impairment and/or experience, participants can ride tests in walk only, walk and trot or walk, trot and canter. Dressage is a multi-disability activity but at the Virtual National Championships, intellectual disability and visually impaired riders can choose to ride in their own classes.



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## MUSICAL RIDE & CARRIAGE DRIVE

SUPPORTED BY CHILDS FARM



**T**hese classes are judged entirely from a video of a ride or carriage drive filmed at the group.

Music has been shown to be a powerful element to improve and energise the performance of both horse and rider or carriage driver, and each year the judges look forward to seeing a wider use of music and movements to do just that.

There are two ridden classes on offer and one driven. Each entry should present a drill ride or carriage drive with riders and helpers smartly dressed – for example in their matching group sweatshirts. If they wish to use modest fancy dress, for example to dress as soldiers to reflect marching music, then that is also acceptable.



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# SHOWING

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Showing is still in its infancy within RDA and is a progression from the already established Best Turned-Out competition held at the RDA National Championships.

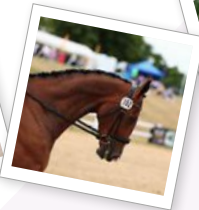
Showing teaches you how to put on a performance and accept the judges' comments as a positive way to improve. It is also a great start for a horse's education, as it teaches manners and gives exposure to the show environment without the exacting pressure of a dressage test or showjumping round.

The competition is open to all RDA riders who can walk and trot.

Classes will be judged on turnout: cleanliness and condition of equines and tack, conformation of the equine with the suitability for the rider, job and overall impression.

The show should comprise of a short video of the entire equine stood still including legs and body. The rider should then move onto an individual display; to include; walk, trot and canter if applicable and change of rein.

Riders should be neatly turned out, clean and tidy with tack and saddlery suitable for the rider, not the show ring, will be encouraged.







Imagine the **possibilities**,  
realize the **potential**.



At Oliver Wight, we believe in achieving a sustainable future, not only for our own organization and our clients, but within the wider community too.

That's why we have proudly sponsored the RDA for over 12 years and continue to support their mission to enrich lives and change the futures of thousands of people through education, therapy, and fun.

The RDA riders are an inspiration. The entire Oliver Wight team wishes them the best of luck for the 2022 National Championships.

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# SHOWJUMPING

SUPPORTED BY OLIVER WIGHT EAME LLP

**R**DA Showjumping has its own unique pathway giving participants valuable opportunities to take part in RDA Competitions and RDA Showjumping Proficiency Tests. The pathway entails 5 levels, beginning at poles on the ground through to an 80cm course, catering for all.

With more than 130 groups taking part in level 2 or above and all groups are now able to take part in level 1 showjumping, it is set to increase at RDA in the coming years.

We will be showcasing levels 1, 2, 3 and 4 at the Virtual National Championships this year.





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## VAULTING

SUPPORTED BY CHILDS FARM 



Vaulting is gymnastics with a barrel or moving horse. The aim of vaulting is to improve the vaulters balance, co-ordination and confidence. As well as being able to compete individually, participants can compete as a team and as such promotes co-operation and team spirit. The horses are not saddled, but wear a surcingle roller and a thick back pad. The surcingle roller has special handles which aid the vaulter in performing certain moves as well as leather loops.

Vaulting teams are made up of 6 vaulters who work with one barrel or horse under the control of a lunger. Pairs classes will run with no age restriction in walk and trot.

Individuals can ride either on the barrel or horse and will be split into 3 age groups:

- 10yrs and under
- 11-16 years
- 17yrs and over

Vaulting has significant therapeutic benefits, you can work as a team to achieve a goal which can have a huge impact on self-confidence. Vaulting also has significant physical benefits and is a great discipline for improving balance, stability motor skills, flexibility and coordination.





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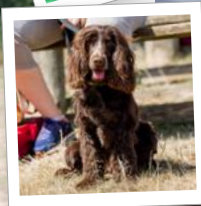
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# WHAT'S ON THIS WEEKEND

**SATURDAY  
EVENT TIMES** 



TIME	CLASS	ACTIVITY
<b>09:00</b>		<b>Welcome to the Virtual National Championships from Rachel Medill MBE</b>
<b>09:02</b>		<b>Good Luck Messages</b>
09:05	<b>1</b>	Dressage Totally Visually Impaired Walk Only Championships
09:23	<b>2</b>	Dressage Partially Visually Impaired Walk Only Championships
09:35	<b>3</b>	Dressage Totally Visually Impaired Walk & Trot Championships
09:40	<b>4</b>	Partially Visually Impaired Walk & Trot Championships
09:55	<b>6</b>	Partially Visually Impaired Canter Championships
<b>10:00</b>		<b>Rider Interview</b>
10:10	<b>37</b>	Countryside Challenge Led with one side walker
10:40	<b>38</b>	Countryside Challenge Led or one side walker
11:20	<b>41</b>	Countryside Challenge Independent
11:50	<b>7</b>	Dressage Grade 4 Championships
12:10	<b>8</b>	Dressage Grade 5 Championships
12:22	<b>43a</b>	Showjumping Level 1 Led
12:34	<b>43b</b>	Showjumping Level 1 Unled
12:49	<b>44b</b>	Showjumping Level 2 Unled
<b>13:05</b>		<b>Lunch</b>
13:35	<b>59</b>	Musical Drill Ride Led
13:56	<b>60</b>	Musical Drill Ride Unled
14:08	<b>61</b>	Musical Drill Drive
14:22	<b>13</b>	Dressage Totally Visually Impaired Walk Only Freestyle
14:27	<b>15</b>	Dressage Totally Visually Impaired Walk & Trot Freestyle



# WHAT'S ON THIS WEEKEND

SATURDAY  
EVENT TIMES 



TIME	CLASS	ACTIVITY
<b>14:32</b>		<i>Interview Panel with Corporate Sponsors led by Director of Fundraising; Lisa Ramsell</i>
14:50	<b>50</b>	Showing Led Walk & Trot
15:05	<b>51</b>	Showing Unled Walk & Trot
15:11	<b>52</b>	Showing Unled Canter
15:14	<b>19</b>	Dressage Grade 4 Freestyle
15:20	<b>53</b>	Vaulting Individual Walk Compulsories / Walk Freestyle
15:38	<b>54</b>	Vaulting Individual Canter Compulsories / Walk Freestyle
15:47	<b>55</b>	Vaulting Individual Canter Compulsories / Canter Freestyle
15:50	<b>56</b>	Vaulting Pairs
15:54	<b>58</b>	Vaulting Barrel Individual
<b>16:00</b>		<i>RDA Strategy Video</i>
16:04	<b>S48</b>	Costume Freestyle from the RDA National Championships cancelled Class
16:16	<b>30</b>	Dressage Led Walk Only
16:52	<b>36</b>	Dressage Grade 7 Walk & Trot Freestyle
17:04	<b>31</b>	Dressage Grade 1 Freestyle
17:34	<b>32</b>	Dressage Grade 2 Freestyle
17:45	<b>35</b>	Dressage Grade 7 Walk Only Freestyle
17:50	<b>34</b>	Dressage Grade 6 Walk Only Freestyle
<b>18:14</b>		<i>Close of day one: closing message from Paul Ringer Interim CEO of RDA</i>





TIME	CLASS	ACTIVITY
<b>09:00</b>		<b>Welcome to Day Two from RDA Chairman; Rachel Medill MBE</b>
<b>09:02</b>		<b>Good Luck Messages</b>
09:03	<b>9</b>	Dressage Grade 6 Walk & Trot Championship
09:51	<b>10</b>	Dressage Grade 6 Canter Championship
10:36	<b>11</b>	Dressage Grade 7 Canter Championship
11:08	<b>12</b>	Dressage Led Walk & Trot
11:45	<b>47</b>	Carriage Driving Novice
12:03	<b>49</b>	Carriage Driving Open
<b>12:09</b>		<b>RDA Strategy Video</b>
12:13	<b>21</b>	Dressage Grade 6 Walk & Trot Freestyle
12:20	<b>22</b>	Dressage Grade 6 Canter Freestyle
12:44	<b>23</b>	Dressage Grade 7 Canter Freestyle
12:55	<b>45</b>	RDA Showjumping Level 3
13:08	<b>46</b>	RDA Showjumping level 4
<b>13:16</b>		<b>Lunch</b>
13:45	<b>39</b>	Countryside Challenge Visually Impaired led with 1 side walker
13:50	<b>40</b>	Countryside Challenge Visually Impaired led or 1 side walker
<b>13:55</b>		<b>Interview Panel with Corporate Sponsors led by RDA Interim CEO Paul Ringer</b>

# WHAT'S ON THIS WEEKEND

SUNDAY EVENT TIMES




TIME	CLASS	ACTIVITY
14:10	24	Dressage Grade 1 Championship
14:57	25	Dressage Grade 2 Championships
15:27	26	Dressage Grade 3 Championships
16:02	84	Sunday from the RDA National Championships Countryside Challenge led with 1 side walker
16:07	85	Sunday from the RDA National Championships Countryside Challenge Led or 1 side walker
16:37	88	Sunday from the RDA National Championships Countryside Challenge Independent
16:42	27	Dressage Grade 6 Walk Only Championships
17:18	28	Dressage Grade 7 Walk Only Championships
17:48	29	Dressage Grade 7 Walk & Trot Championships
18:42		<i>Closing remarks from Anne Coney, National Championships Chairman</i>

# WHAT'S ON THIS WEEKEND

SUNDAY EVENT TIMES






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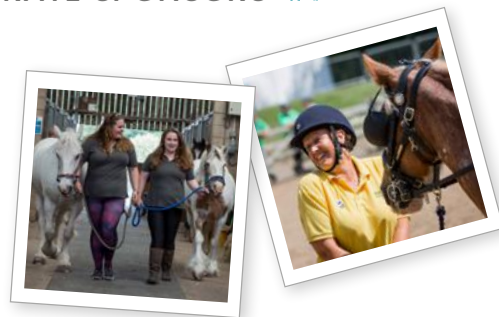
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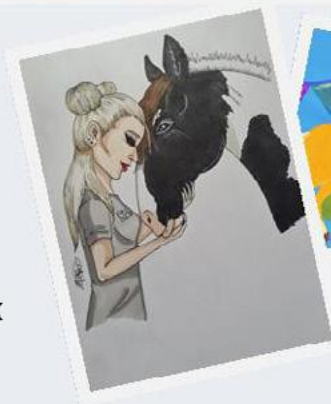


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