

Judges

National Pathway for British Carriagedriving



Key Tasks

A British Carriage driving National Judge has these primary tasks:

- To undertake the judging of dressage tests with knowledge, honesty and encouragement.
- To familiarise themselves with the cones course and be prepared to judge, time keep or score this phase, working with other judges
- To walk the marathon obstacles and be prepared to assist the obstacle stewards with any queries or problems they encounter, with a thorough knowledge of the rules
- To ensure the safety of all personnel and animals to the best of their ability.

General Background

- General knowledge of Carriage driving trials.
- Official BC Membership
- Good health

Specific Skills

- Knowledge of the rules and regulations regarding carriage driving.
- Ability to be able to liaise with event organisers, officials and volunteers.
- Ability to fulfil the requirements of a dressage judge
- Ability to produce accurate documentation in a timely manner.
- Ability to maintain concentration in all phases but particularly dressage and cones.
- Willingness to support new trainees.

Additional Skills

- Ability to remain calm even in difficult situations, always with a focused attitude.
- Good communication skills.
- Positive and friendly attitude.
- Strongly self-motivated, determined and proactive
- Ability to learn and to work under pressure.
- Ability to work well with other officials and respect the views of others
- Flexibility and team-working oriented.
- Availability to travel

Pathway - Judge

1. Initial Involvement

- Engage with a local club and offer to write for the dressage judge, assist with cones and obstacles to find out more

2. Becoming a Club Judge

- Attend a BC Judges Clinic.
- Write for dressage judges
- Ask to sit in to gain more experience
- Practice judge in your own car then compare your marks and comments with the officiating judge
- Keep a record of what you have done and build up a portfolio
- Cones
- Shadow the cones judges and learn how things are done. Know the rules. Offer to help where you can
- Marathon / Obstacles
- Shadow the judges, observe and learn. Know the rules
- Assist the officials in all phases and try to get to several different clubs.
- Collate your portfolio and evaluation feedback reports
- You can stay at this level and judge at Club level but will be required to attend either a BC in person training course at least once every three years or attend a BC zoom training session at least once every two years.

3. Advancing to BC National Judge

- Contact BC to become a probationary National judge submitting your experience and consult the training lead for guidance.
- Get a mentor (buddy) and continue with your portfolio. (The training lead will assist with this).
- Gain experience by assisting at as many events at club and national level as you can, until you feel confident to progress - two years is the recommended time scale
- Receive an evaluation feedback form for every event attended and file reports to BC.
- When you feel you are ready, submit your portfolio to BC and request to be considered for promotion to the national list
- Based on positive feedback and experience, BC may promote candidates to full National Judge at any time.

- To remain on the BC officials list you will be required to attend and pass one BC judges clinic every three years and show that you have been actively gaining experience at events.

4. Advancing to International Judge

- Be an active National Judge for five years.
- BC will provide support with paperwork and guidance. The process pathway allows for potential fast-tracking based on experience and positive feedback reports