

SECTION 3: Guidance Notes for In Hand Dressage:

Walk Test: RDAA Walk F and Walk B

Trot Test: RDAA Trot A and Trot B

Leaders to be on the inside track at all times.

Judged on:

- Manners and Paces,
- Horse's way of going,
- Lightness and responsiveness in hand,
- Use of arena and accuracy,
- Handler's influence on the horse and empathetic leading.

Please refer to RDA Volunteer training handbook p. 27 for further information.

The judge will be looking for an active and free moving horse or pony, not one that is reluctant to go forward and having to be dragged along, or one that is too forward and having to be held on a tight lead, or one loses straightness through transitions or resists handler's aids.

This means the handler can then show the horse or pony in hand on a light contact with slight loop in the lead rope/reins, allowing the horse or pony to move freely forward, be straight and with no restriction to its head and neck.

The horse should be shown in a simple snaffle bridle with cavesson noseband. Reins or lead rein can be used to lead.

Handler should wear neat attire with suitable, non - slip footwear (RDA shirts acceptable). Gloves must be worn.

Leaders must remain on the inside track.

There will be a prize for neatest presented horse and handler (horses do not need to be plaited but must be presented well – groomed and clean).