



Invitation to the 2024 Para Dressage Video Competition

[WITH NOTES FOR US ATHLETES]

Dates

- To validate that all tests have been recorded in the qualifying period please show a newspaper with the date clearly visible at the beginning of the recording.
- There are three video competitions each year. Riders joining all competitions can vie for the overall champion. Round 1 Videos must be submitted to Virtus by the Member Organization by **February 18, 2024.**

Tests

Performance Level - riders can choose one or two of the following tests, all ridden on a 20x40m arena. The tests will be judged separately.

II1 & II3 riders:

- FEI Grade 4 Novice B
- FEI Grade 4 Intermediate A

II2 riders:

- FEI Grade 3 Novice A
- FEI Grade 3 Intermediate B

NOTE: In all tests the Halt in the first movement is skipped.

For inclusion in the Team competition, riders must provide videos of both tests. Teams are made up of three riders. If a nation enters more than three riders, the scores of the best three riders count. The riders of the first three nations of the competition will get rosettes. Teams of 3 must have at least 2 riders in the classes II-1 and/or II-2.

Development Level - riders can choose one or two of the following tests. The tests will be judged separately.

II1, II2 and II3 riders:

- FEI Grade 2 Novice A
- FEI Grade 2 Intermediate A

NOTE: In all tests the Halt in the first movement is skipped.

There is no age limit for both levels.

Arena

20 x 40 m, outdoor arena preferred. If an indoor arena is used, it must provide enough space for proper video recording

Rules

Horses and ponies can be ridden by more than one rider, but not more than two riders in a team.

This event is organized in accordance with the [VIRTUS Para Dressage Rules](#) (March 2022) and in accordance with the FEI Code of Conduct for the Welfare of the Horse.

Videos of tests may not be entered if they have already been judged at a competition. If a video is suspected to have been taken at a competition, the rider will be disqualified. Therefore, while riders are encouraged to wear regular competition outfit, the horse must wear bandages.

A commander is allowed. Please also refer to the Rule Book.

The decisions of the judges are final.

Filming

The person filming must stand behind C as far as possible, but will have to zoom in when the rider is at A.

The video must be taken in landscape format in one shot, no cuts allowed. The whole horse must be seen at all times. Sound must be recorded to make sure no coaching is taking place during the test. The riders are not allowed to wear earphones.

Please try to ensure the video is clear and in focus. In particular:

- Use a tripod or stand where possible to reduce motion
- Minimize background noise and interruption
- Be aware of sunlight or spotlights to avoid glare

Videos should be saved in MPEG or MOV format.

PLEASE NOTE THAT POOR QUALITY VIDEOS MAY LEAD TO DISQUALIFICATION

Entries

In countries with a VIRTUS member organization, the entries must be made through that organization. In countries without a VIRTUS member organization, entries can be made direct to VIRTUS (Please contact VIRTUS for an entry account).

Athlete Eligibility

Riders must hold the international eligibility and appear on the VIRTUS Master List with a valid competition license.

Please submit new eligibility applications as soon as possible.

Entries are invited from athletes in II1, II2 and II3 eligibility groups.

Entry Fee

The entry fee is [**\$ 45 USD**] entry + platform fee. Entry fees will not be refunded once an entry has been accepted except where an entry is rejected by VIRTUS (where we will state the reason for the rejection).

Acceptance

Making an entry constitutes acceptance of the VIRTUS Para Dressage Rules. Entrants also agree to Virtus using pictures and videos in marketing and promotion such as press release, social media, and website.

Judges

Entries will be judged by FEI Para Dressage judges.

Riders placed in rank 1 to 6 will be provided with rosettes and a certification showing their rank and score. There will be no prize money given out.

Dress and Tack

Competition gear should be worn as stated in the FEI Para Dressage Rules, but the riders may wear Jodhpur boots and black or brown half chaps. Gloves must be worn.

Bridles & Tack

While double bridles are allowed, snaffle bridles should be preferred.

No auxiliary reins are allowed. Use of auxiliary reins leads to disqualification.

The horses must wear bandages.

For the use of spurs, whips and compensating aids please refer to the VIRTUS Para Dressage Rules.

Errors

Errors will be handled as stated on the test sheet.

Entry Platform

Please contact your [Virtus member organisation](#) to submit an entry.

In the US the Virtus Member is Athletes Without Limits (<https://www.athleteswithoutlimits.org>)

We will post a US Rider Registration form and video submission guidelines to our event calendar by the January 31, 2024, with instructions on how to submit your video. We ask that US Riders submit their video to Athletes Without Limits by **February 16** so we have time to meet the Virtus deadline of **February 18, 2024**.

Things to think about when filming your Virtual Dressage entry:

- Where possible avoid anything that provides personal or identifying information in the background or setting where the video is being filmed.
- Ensure that you only have the horse and rider combination in the film that you are recording.
- Do not share the video content with anyone else.
- Please make sure you use your own device to record where possible.
- Check the rules for correct competition clothing and tack.
- Avoid filming into direct sunlight.
- Think about the time of day that you record your video, low setting sun, mist etc can all have an effect on the quality of the video.
- If your horse is dark in colour think about the background of your video. If your arena is surrounded by dark hedges your horse may blend in with the background.
- The filmer must stand at C.
- The filmer needs to always keep you in the centre of the screen, following you around the arena and zooming in where necessary.
- Videos must be filmed in landscape (turn the phone on its side)
- Can you see all the letters around your arena and is it the correct size (20x40m)
- All videos must be started by filming the days newspaper that you are recording on
- All videos must clearly state the riders name, horse name and which test they are riding
- Videos can only be submitted via Youtube.