

# 2024 Para Dressage Video Competition (Round 3) September 16 - October 31



Virtus is delighted to launch Round 3 of the 2024 Para Dressage video competition.

The video competition brings together the world's best riders with an intellectual impairment, to compete in a World Championship from their home environment making this an exciting and efficient way to enter top-level competition.

Please remember that in 2025 Virtus will host the 1st World Championships.

A video entry is a compulsory part of the qualification process and so entry to this video competition is strongly recommended.

Entries may only be submitted by Virtus member organisations no later than 31st October 2024.

[US riders should submit their entry to Athletes Without Limits by October 29th to ensure time for us to review and submit to Virtus by the 31st.]

Before submitting an entry, please refer to the updated Virtus Equestrian rulebook at the link below:

<https://www.virtus.sport/governance-and-policy#toggle-id-7>

**NOTE THAT THIS PDF EVENT GUIDE CONTAINS NOTES IN RED SPECIFICALLY FOR US RIDERS WHO WILL SUBMIT THEIR ENTRY THROUGH ATHLETES WITHOUT LIMITS.**



## Invitation to the Para Dressage Video Competition

### Dates

- The Fall 2024 Video Competition is open from **Sept 16-Oct 31, 2024**.
- 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 multiple competitions can vie for the overall champion.

### 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 **Virtus Rule Book:**  
<https://www.virtus.sport/governance-and-policy#toggle-id-7>

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. [\[Athletes Without Limits is the USA Virtus Member\]](#)

### 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 US Dollars for US athletes with new eligibility (which included their current year's annual competition license). Some athletes may need to renew their annual Virtus Competition License for \$30 for a total of \$75 due.**

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 Riders: please contact your [Virtus member organisation](#) to submit an entry.

**US Riders should follow the entry process in red below to submit to Athletes Without Limits**

## Things to Think About When Recording Your Video (from Virtus Organizers):

- 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



## **ATHLETES WITHOUT LIMITS ENTRY PROCESS FOR USA ATHLETES:**

- 1) Review this event PDF in it's entirety (a copy if available at blue link below).
- 2) Record your video using the guidelines provided in this packet - you can do so before or after completing the online entry form below.
- 3) Complete the Athletes Without Limits event **ENTRY FORM** on our US Event page below.  
[www.athleteswithoutlimits.org/2024-virtus-equestrian-round-3](http://www.athleteswithoutlimits.org/2024-virtus-equestrian-round-3)  
*The entry form includes payment of your \$45 or \$75 entry fee. (Note If you are unable to complete a video by the deadline AWL will refund your fee.) Your confirmation email will include a Dropbox Link for uploading.*
- 4) Submit your video to Athletes Without Limits using the Dropbox link you received by email confirmation when you complete the Entry Form above. US Riders should submit by **October 29th** so we have time to review and submit your entry to Virtus by Oct 31st.