

PCIA Virtual Equitation Competition

USPC participating members of all ages and certification levels have the unique opportunity to compete against international Pony Club members and receive feedback from Show Jumping judges around the world at a low cost.

Competition

Eligibility

Member: Any active, compliant member of the USPC

Certification: Members can participate regardless of certification status

Age: 24 years and under (as of January 1 the year of the exchange)

Equitation Competition

The PCIA Virtual Jumping Equitation Competition consists of an application period, video upload period, and a judging period with results posted after the judge had finalized results. Riders may enter up to two height classes. USPC will select up to 5 riders per class.

Entries

September 2 – USPC application deadline, upload period starts

September 30 – Deadline to submit video, judging period starts

October 20 – Judges results posted

Classes

Class 1: Trot Pole Competition

Class 2: 30cm

Class 3: 50cm

Class 4: 70cm

Class 5: 90cm

Class 6: 105cm

Arena

The arena size will be 80 x 50m, any surface is acceptable as it is an equitation class.

Application

Due September 2. <https://wkf.ms/4kOa63z>

Additional Information

- An entry fee of \$75 will be collected per class entered, due upon team selection.
- Members may apply for multiple classes/levels.
- Video of tests are submitted with applications.
 - See below for video requirements and submission tips.
- A certificate, polo shirt, and any prizes will be mailed following the end of the competition.

Rules

The Pony Club UK rules (<https://pcuk.org/showjumping/>) with the following modifications/clarifications:

1. Type of Competition:
 - a. It is one jumping round not against the clock.
 - b. A bell may be used to signal the rider to start.
 - c. The Trot Pole class must be completed at a trot only.
2. Dress
 - a. Pony Club uniform to be worn.
 - b. Allowed tack is as per your own country's jumping rules.
3. Video Requirements
 - a. It is not necessary to submit the video on your first attempt. You may repeat the test as many times as you need and submit only the best video.
 - b. Videoing must be done from the judge's position marked on the Course Plan.
 - i. Videos must be recorded as unobstructed.
 - c. Videoing must be in landscape orientation.
 - d. Videos must be recorded with the sound ON and submitted with their original audio. If audio has been removed, the video will be disqualified.
 - i. Commentary is NOT permitted in audio
 - ii. Coaching is NOT permitted. Video will be disqualified.
 - e. Videos should not be edited in anyway.
 - f. Videoing must begin before the horse enters the arena and may end 10 strides after Final Obstacle.

All judge's decisions are final, and no score/placing will be altered following the posting of the official results.

Key Criteria

These classes will be judged on the rider's position, effectiveness of aids, and ability to adjust to the course, rather than the horse's jumping ability or confirmation. Judges assess the rider's position, including their seat, legs, and hands, as well as their communication with the horse through their aids. The focus is on the rider's skill in navigating the course smoothly and efficiently, making accurate adjustments, and maintaining a secure and balanced position throughout.

Position and Posture

Riders should maintain a balanced, secure position, keeping their heels down, legs steady, and hands quiet and in line with the horse's mouth.

Effectiveness of Aids

Riders must use their aids (legs, seat, hands) effectively to communicate with the horse and guide it through the course, making adjustments as needed.

Rhythm, Smoothness and Flow

A good equitation round should be smooth and flowing, with minimal noticeable effort from the rider.

Overall Impression

Judges also consider the rider's overall presentation and how well they handle any unexpected situations or challenges that may arise.

Video Tips and Tricks You will need a friend or parent to film your test for you. Ask them to follow these instructions to ensure your test can be judged online.

Video Version

1. Filming Position
 - a. Film from behind the judge's position at the C marker, outside the arena
 - b. If it's a sunny day, try to ensure the sun is behind the camera
 - c. If you can, mount the device on a tripod to keep it steady
2. Technique
 - a. If filming on a smartphone, hold the device in landscape orientation
 - b. Start filming a short time before the rider enters at A, e.g. as the rider passes the E or B marker
 - c. Keep the horse and rider in the center of the frame
 - d. Sound must be recorded.
3. Zooming


- a. Avoid excessive zooming in and out - the judge will need to see the part of the arena the competitor is in and the whole horse and rider clearly
- b. Some zooming is necessary when the horse and rider are at the far end of the arena
4. Framing
 - a. The horse and rider should fill about half of the vertical space in the frame whenever possible.

Upload Your Video for Sharing

Please upload your video to a sharing platform such as YouTube, Google Drive, or Dropbox, and paste the link in the space below. Ensure the video has appropriate sharing access to be evaluated by the selection panel.

Instructions

YouTube

1. Log in or create an account
2. In the top right corner (computer) or bottom menu (phone/tablet), select “Create” or 
3. Select “Upload Video”
4. Find the video in your file explorer (computer) or video library (phone/tablet). Upload.
5. Set permission to “Unlisted” or “Public”.
 - a. TIP – videos set to “Private” will not be accessible to the selection committee and will not be accepted.
6. Copy the sharing link and paste into the USPC application.

Google Drive

1. Navigate to drive.google.com (computer) or the Google Drive app (phone/tablet).
2. In the top left corner (computer) or bottom right corner (phone/tablet), select “New” or the “+” icon.
3. Find the video in your file explorer (computer) or video library (phone/tablet). Upload.
4. After the upload is finished, navigate to “My Drive” and open the video file.
5. Select “Share” (computer) or the three dots in the top right corner of the screen, and then select “Share” (phone/tablet).
6. Under “General Access”, change the setting from “Restricted” to “Anyone with the link”.
 - a. TIP – videos set to “Restricted” will not be accessible to the selection committee and will not be accepted.
7. Copy the sharing link and paste into the USPC application.