

Purpose of Introductory Level Tests

To introduce the rider and/or horse to the sport of dressage, confirming that they are beginning to develop an understanding of correct dressage basics. The horse should be ridden freely forward in a steady tempo and clear rhythm, accepting contact with the bit. An understanding of test accuracy and geometry should be demonstrated.

Introduces

Free walk, medium walk, working trot rising, 20 meter circle, halt through walk.

Instructions

To be ridden in a snaffle. All trot to be ridden rising, Transitions from walk to trot and trot to walk may be performed through sitting trot with the objective of performing a smooth transition. Turns from centre line to long side and long side to centre line should be ridden as a half circle, touching the track at a point midway between the centre line and the corner, and vice versa.

Horses should be ridden on a light but steady contact, with the exception of the free walk in which the horse is allowed complete freedom to stretch neck forward and downward. Halts may be through walk.

Collective Marks	Coeff
Paces (Freedom and regularity)	1
Impulsion (Desire to move forward, elasticity of the steps, suppleness of the back and engagement of the hindquarters)	1
Submission (Willing cooperation, harmony, attention and confidence; acceptance of bit and aids, straightness, lightness of the forehand and ease of movements)	2
Rider's Position and Seat, Correctness and Effective Use of the Aids (Clarity, subtlety, independence, accuracy of test)	2

Arena size: 60m x 20m or 40m x 20m
Suggested Draw Time: 5:00 minutes 60x20 or 4:00 minutes 40x20

TEST		DIRECTIVE	Coef
1	A Between X & C	Enter working trot rising. Medium walk	Regularity, quality of trot; straightness, willing, calm transition. Regularity, quality of walk
2	C MBF	Track right. Working trot rising	Bend and balance; willing, calm transition
3	A	Circle right 20 meters, working trot rising	Regularity; shape and size of circle; bend; balance
4	KXM	Change rein, working trot rising	Regularity of trot; straightness; bend and balance in corner
5	C	Circle left 20 meters, working trot rising	Regularity; shape and size of circle; bend; balance
6	Between C & H	Medium walk	Willing, calm transition; regularity, quality
7	HXF	Change rein in free walk on a long rein	Regularity and quality of walks; reach and ground cover with over track of free walk allowing complete freedom to stretch the neck forward and downward into light contact
8	FA A	Medium walk Down centre line	Regularity, quality, willing, calm transition, bend and balance in turn. Straightness on centre line
9	X	Halt, Salute	Straightness; attentiveness; immobility (min. 3 seconds)
Leave arena in walk on a long rein at A			

