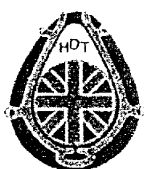


## Leaders and Wheelers



### BRITISH HORSE DRIVING TRIALS ASSOCIATION

## USING THE SCALE OF MARKS

### A Guideline for Dressage Judging

- 0 - NOT EXECUTED** This mark is given very rarely and only when a movement is not executed, such as a horse trots through entire walk movement, or a circle is forgotten. If there is a fragment of the movement performed, a higher mark is in order. Normally the President of Jury will ring the bell and ask for the movement to be re-driven.
- 1 - VERY BAD** and
- 2 - BAD** these marks are about severe resistance. If a horse stops, runs back, kicks, rears or is disobedient.
- 3 - FAIRLY BAD** This could be given if there is fairly bad resistance, or a resistance combined with a lack of quality and/or mistakes. If there is a total lack of quality and mistakes it would also be possible to give a 3 or even a 2.
- 4 - INSUFFICIENT** The most important thing when giving a 4 is that one thinks of the movement as 'insufficient'. If in the quality area the horse loses the regularity throughout the movement caused by stiffness or resistance rather than unsoundness. In cases of an 'error of test' when an attempt at a movement has been made but is not successful, this would be appropriate. If bending is not consistent throughout the test then the mark should be 4 or possibly 5.
- 5 - SUFFICIENT** If the movement has been achieved, even if somewhat restricted, earthbound, lacking suppleness or impulsion, as long as regularity is clear and the figure is fairly accurate it can warrant a 5. Clearly state in your remarks why the movement is not 'satisfactory'. When there is nothing wrong with the quality, such as in a reinback where the quality is good but there were too many or too few steps back, or on the other hand if the steps back were as required but the quality was poor such as not backing straight, the mark is 5. However, if in the too few step example the quality is poor, a 4 is appropriate as is a 6 when quality is good. If a horse is falling in on the corners and circles on only one rein but is otherwise able to hold his balance and rhythm, a 5 may be an appropriate mark
- 6 - SATISFACTORY** Covers a multitude of sins. When the movement is basically correct but lacking in quality - not supple enough, needing more engagement and balance, or maybe the contact is inconsistent. This can also be for a high quality of movement with a small mistake or inaccuracy. For example a good collection in a circle that is 'too big'. Straightness issues often result in 6's as long as the quality is otherwise good.
- 7 - FAIRLY GOOD** There is usually nothing to really complain about with a 7. Normally everything needs a little more impulsion, suppleness, expression and/or cadence. The basic qualities are clear and show a certain amount of harmony and ease within the movement itself.

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Continued

**8 - GOOD**

There must be no basic problems. The movement has been properly executed. Maybe there was an extended trot that was worth a 9 but came down to 8 because the transition was not good enough. Usually it is the secondary part of the movement that stops

**9 - VERY GOOD**

'Goose bump material', with most of the movement being excellent.

**10 - EXCELLENT**

Perfect - no room for improvement. It is something very special to give a 10, and if awarded too lightly will lose its significance.

**USE THE RANGE** - our job as judges is to be as fair and clear with the marks as possible. If we see a 'very good' or 'excellent' movement we should be brave enough to reward the competitor. However if the movement is only worth a 6, then only give a 6. We can only mark what we see - not guess what the movement may look like. Reward the well driven movements, and give a low mark with helpful and constructive comments to a lesser performance.

These useful guidelines on using the Scale of Marks were originally produced by Stephen Clarke GB, FEI Official International Judge, to help the ridden dressage judges. With his permission these have been changed so that they apply to the driven horse. It is hoped that you will find them helpful.

The training days are very popular and we are all keen to improve our dressage score if we can. But do we all have access to the workings of the judge's mind? What is the judge looking for? These notes from the judges' conference of the BHDTA have kindly been supplied to the editor by Mrs Carol Mansfield, who has been judging all over the country at BHDTA driving trials for many years at local and National level. It is hoped that you will find them interesting and useful.

REMEMBER REMEMBER

DRIVE and LE TREC at WINDOLPHS 11<sup>th</sup> /12<sup>th</sup> July

Bring your own food for lunch each day and whatever you would like for the BBQ on Saturday night.

Jonathon will kindly supply the cooking equipment.

SUMMER GARDEN PARTY at FORNHAM END 26<sup>th</sup> July

We would like to raise a donation for the Suffolk Air Ambulance so there will be a raffle. If you can bring a prize we would be appreciative. At least bring your purse! Oh, and your swimming cosie and your children, and your friends. There will be croquet, boules, and anything else you care to bring with you. Pray for fine weather. We look forward to seeing everyone for a good old natter. Cakes will be welcome – anything we don't eat we will sell!

### Thetford Drive March 29<sup>th</sup>

The club met at St Helen's carpark at Santon Downham on a sunny morning in contrast to the cold blustery days the week before. Despite the clock change everyone arrived on time. The new keys issued were fine but there were not sufficient of them and some people were unable to open the barriers.

Carriages set off in different directions, some south of the river, and others crossing either over or under the railway and heading off towards Grimes Graves.

Ray and Linda drove their pair and were pleased with their behaviour. A lesser spotted woodpecker had been sighted and the twitchers were out in force, armed with cameras and binoculars. The highland cattle on the water meadow had very young endearing calves with them.

The weather clouded over after our drive and as we sat down to enjoy our picnic lunch more coats and scarves were worn. Young members of the public parked near the river surprised us all by donning swimming costumes and entering the water. We shivered in disbelief.

It was good to see Sue and Tom Ram, Shirley, and Barry and Joan Southwold who all joined us at lunch time.

Attendance: Linda and Ray, Howard and Margaret, Ian and Sandy, with John as groom, Ben and Davida, Wally and Eunice, Philip Anderson, Mouse, Anna and Robin, Maureen and Jackie.

MAW.

### Swaffham Prior Drive - 5 April

Terence & Liz with Silvie  
Canny & David & Edmund with Pebbles  
Maureen & Adrian with Carrie  
Hilary & Shaun with Rosie  
Philip Anderson with ?  
Ian & Mouse with Danny  
Gwen & Geoff with Comet  
Howard & Margaret Nuttall with Bess  
Linda & Ray Millie & Poppy  
Richard & Linda with Chester

We returned on a beautiful sunny spring day to drive this area of the fens after a gap of several years, so for many it was a first time. The route was on single track minor roads and farm tracks, and included some of the land which the National Trust have acquired for their rather controversial re-invention of the fens, and the Environment Agency, both of whom were happy for us to be there. We owe a big thank you to Hilary for designing what everyone said was a lovely 9 mile drive on her home territory. Not expecting many surprises in such an isolated spot there was some amusement when about 40 mature motorcyclists passed sedately in groups of 4 or 5. Any pony nervous at first was completely blase by the time the last one had gone by. Instructions on the itinerary commanded "STOP FOR A DRINK" at the

Dyke's End pub, and in true CWSDC fashion every member obeyed. Non-drivers were kept busy ferrying glasses from bar to outstretched hands, whilst the horses were soon sampling the lush grass on the famous Reach green. Tom and Sue, Bunty, Sandy, Angela, David and Catherine joined us here. After the pre-lunch drink the carriages loaded with extra passengers (mainly the Dickens family) drove the short way back to Swaffham Prior to get out the picnics and do a little sun-bathing. A walk round the garden to admire the daffodils and Edmund's new pony revealed that David had driven his precious Morris Minor into a deep hole in the concrete. Honestly, men drivers. Angela objected to being asked to lift it out single-handed but, as ever, there were immediate offers of help from the chaps and the job was done.

It was Hilary's birthday that day and at lunch we toasted her and dished out birthday cake to all members. The cake was delicious and most welcome as everyone was relaxing after a superb drive. A lovely end to a wonderful morning. Rosie now has a splendid new head collar (birthday present) as well, Very smart!

ASMW

### **STOP PRESS**

Alison Horsley, the Air Ambulance fund raising co-ordinator is booked to talk at about mid-day, after the AGM, for about 40 mins, with time for questions etc. I have asked her to stay and have lunch with us if she would like to. She has a display table which we should find very interesting. Liz Wheeler

### **BOXWORTH AND CHILDERLEY BLUEBELL DRIVE**

SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2009

The route started, as usual, around the back of Pages Farm and brought us to the bottom of the village where we passed Manor Farm with its beautiful wisteria, the lovely walled garden and the (enviable) vegetable garden. Feeling like eccentric celebrities, we trotted on past the locals who had turned out to watch us. Having negotiated 'the gap' we carried on through Lolworth, along the long, green lane to the Childerley Estate. Here the route took us through delightful bluebell woods by way of newly cut tracks (no chance to get lost there, then!). The bluebells and cowslips were even more stunning than last year. The Childerley Estate had allowed us to drive over yet more new tracks and field margins which meant that the majority of the twelve mile drive was off-road. What a treat!

Unfortunately, the blustery wind was still 'blustering' at lunch time when we returned to Pages Farm, so a hasty re-alignment of Jeff's truck and trailer to form a wind break meant that all who gathered for lunch could do so in relative comfort.

Maybe next year the weather will be perfect to compliment a perfect drive!

### *Hardy perennials:*

Canny and David with Pebble  
Liz and Terence with Sylvie  
Eunice and Wally with Winston  
Ian and Fran with Dan  
Jeff and Gwen with Comet  
John and Rosemary with Jasmine  
Maureen and Shirley with Carrie  
Mouse and Anne with Jake  
Richard and Judith with Sonny  
Richard and Linda with Chester

*SDC*

### Grove Farm Weekend 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> May

#### Training Day and Whips and Grooms Competition

We had super warm and sunny weather on both days! Lunch was enjoyed in the new stable yard with everyone catching up with news and discussing the competition on Sunday.

#### Saturday

There was schooling and/or dressage with Sallie, road driving practice with Brent, and cones with Maureen. In addition there was "Take Your Own Line" hazards practice for which there were tracks in the woods, trees to drive in and out of, barrels to weave between, and cones.

#### Sunday

The competition started with a briefing at 10.00am. At 10.30 am was dressage test no.6, followed by cones.

Class 1 for whips was judged by Eunice, with Sandy as scribe.

Class 2 for grooms was judged by Clare, with Shirley as scribe.

The dressage was followed by the cones course which was set out in the front paddock, where it was judged by Maureen and Sarah-Jane.

After lunch everyone had a go at the hazards. Four excellent and challenging hazards had been built by Brent. The emphasis was more on precision than speed.

#### Results

##### Class 1

place	name	dressage	cones	hazards	total
1st	Mouse	110	-2	-	108
2nd	Ian	105	-2	-	103
3rd	Linda	102	-2	-	100
4th	Howard	92	-	-	92

5th	Judith	92	-2	-	90
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Class 2

1st	Wally	105	-6	-	99
2nd	Diana	106	-6	-2	98
3rd	Kathy	97	-2	-	95
3 <sup>rd</sup> (joint)	Sue	101	-6	-	95
5th	Margaret	78	-2	-4	72
H/C	Hilary	103	-2	-2	99

Thank you for all your help and support –especially Sallie, Eunice, Clare, and Brent.  
SDR

**Millers' Trail May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>**

We were blessed with three gloriously sunny days for our Millers' Trail. Visiting two mills each day we were able to look around each mill and the work of the millers was explained to us by very enthusiastic guides.

Our back up crew – Sandy at 'control' on the end of her mobile and Colin driving to crossing points on the main roads to escort us across in his new 'Hi-Vis' jacket, and to bring us water for the ponies when we stopped for lunch.

We averaged about 16 miles each day.

Day 1 we drove on tracks to Euston Water Mill which was started up for us to admire. We picnicked in the park then drove around the estate, then by road to Bardwell Tower Mill. There we were fortified with tea and flapjack. The sails are being rebuilt and we saw work in progress in the sheds as well as looking around the tower. We returned to Coney Weston for a fish and chip supper and delicious puddings.

Day 2 we drove on quiet roads to Pakenham. Colin marshalled us across the A143 to Wyken. We drove to Grimstone End to picnic in Millers' Meadow amongst the topiary figures and to view the Pakenham Water Mill. A track beside the river took us to the windmill half a mile away. We returned via Ixworth and Bardwell to Coney Weston and a barbeque. We were joined by Liz and Jonathan, Mark, and David. We were entertained by two hot air balloons passing overhead, one landing close by on the airfield.

Day 3 we took roads and tracks to Stanton, again assisted by Colin and Sandy, to view a post mill. On again to Thelnetham Tower Mill and back to Coney Weston. Sue and Tom, Bunty and Scrivy were awaiting our return. We celebrated Scrivy's birthday with a cake and a variety of puddings remaining from the barbeque.

Rosettes to commemorate the drive were distributed, everyone departed, and the field and house were very empty. MAW

Attendance

Colin and Sandy in the car.

Ray and Linda with Millie and Poppy      Sarah Jayne and Graham and Tatty Ann  
 Mouse and Alan with Jake      Ben and Davida and Charlie  
 Shirley and Sue with Chloe      Ian and Jane driving      Danny  
 Canny and David with Pebbles      Terence and Liz with Sylvie  
 Judith and Richard with Sonny      Eunice and Wally driving      Winston  
 Jeff and Gwen with Comet      Liz and Jonathan driving      Holly

Maureen and Angela with Carrie

### Examination Results

#### Road Driving Assessment

The test was held at Grove Farm on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2009. We are delighted to congratulate **Kathy Batty, Diana Holt, Shirley Reeder and Judith Webster** on a very successful result. Well done to all of you. It is a nerve racking experience and takes a lot of guts to put yourself forward to be watched by an examiner. We admire you. An excellent example for the rest of us. WELL DONE WELL DONE

#### Elveden Drive 6<sup>th</sup> June

This year Clare kindly gave us the opportunity to drive her new hazards. The drive was arranged to enable us to make good use of them.

The morning drive was arranged by Lindsay and Shirley and flagged by Lindsay and Carolyn on the Hall side of the A11. we went over the road at Summerpit Farm, across to the heath and towards Icklingham. Here there was a choice of a longer or shorter route. We made our way along the beautiful Canada drive, turned right alongside (but not near to) the A11, and returned on tracks to Summerpit Farm.

It was a lovely morning, the fields green with immaculate crops of potatoes, onions, barley and rye...the birds singing...glimpses of deer, curlew, buzzards...no traffic and good going.

Lunch was in the new, large carpark which had a useful supply of water. The weather was fine but a little breezy. After lunch we were given a map of the tracks and woods in the surrounding park and enjoyed the freedom of planning our own routes. Then we had the fun of negotiating the new hazards which are solid and well planned. The water proved a challenge and was great fun to drive. Some members came out of it at great speed! Most ponies had little trouble having crossed the fords at Castle Acre several times.

A big thank you to Edward and Clare for such a super venue. And another to Lindsay and Carolyn for all their help with the route. SDR

#### Attendance:

Clare, Becky, Laura and Rupert driving Ryan, Frisco, Rolley and Lucy  
Brent and Sam with Rex and Chloe , Chloe in the afternoon  
Linda and Ray with Millie and Poppy Terence and Liz with Sylvie  
Canny and David with Pebbles Kathy and Jeff with Flora  
Judith and Richard with Sonny John and Rosemary with ?  
Hilary and Sean with Rosie Ian and Liz with Danny  
Maureen and Angela with Carrie Mouse with Jake  
Eunice and Wally with Winston Ben and Davida with Pip

## EAST WALTON AND THEREABOUTS 2009

For the first time in, heaven knows how many years, the East Walton week's holiday remained dry - well, almost.

Not quite the 'barbeque summer' as promised, but breezy, warm-ish and dry with the exception of Wednesday evening when we experienced high winds and rain, and, on the final mid-afternoon when the heavens opened and delivered rain like stair-rods!

Everyone managed to drive out each day covering old, familiar tracks and discovering new routes. Goodness knows how many miles were covered, but Canny, David, Liz and Terence clocked up 78 miles during their stay at West Rudham (less of a porcine presence over there). Thanks to 'Jones the gadget' they have a printed record of each of their journeys, the mileage, times and speeds travelled; should make interesting reading!

Although based at different locations, we all managed to meet for evening meals at East Walton for bangers and mash al fresco and for the cottagers' supper and also at various pubs including the Dabbling Duck, the Stag and the Crown and Castle.

Our newest Club member, Marianne (and pony, George) joined us for a day's driving and was accompanied by Linda with Sue B-H driving the pair. A great day was had by all. Jeff and Gwen 'jetted in' from their recent trip to Poland and we were treated to a number of tastings of 'Polish grandpa's best vodka' which slipped down very well! Eunice and Wally explored new tracks and byways and recorded their adventures on dvd for us all to enjoy in the evening. Sarah-Jayne had her nerves jangled once again when she bravely volunteered to groom for Ian and Dan; and Sandy climbed back on to the 'box seat' for an hour's gentle drive (with grateful thanks to all who helped).

On the last day, Angela, Maureen, Sarah-Jayne and Ian accompanied Graham on a route planning expedition to map out a 15 mile drive for a charity event in July. An interesting drive where smelly muck heaps, bumpy fords, wine on the green and torrential rain featured on the agenda!

In all, another jolly week in West Norfolk where we were made welcome by our hosts and hostelryes. We shall certainly return next year.

### *In Field:*

Eunice and Wally with Winston

Ben and Davida with Charlie

Jeff and Gwen with Comet

Ray and Linda (and Sue B-H) with Poppy and Millie

Marrainne with George  
Mouse with Jake  
Sarah-Jayne and Graham with Tatty Anne

*Out field:*

Liz and Terence with Sylvie  
Canny and David with Pebbles

*Cottagers:*

Maureen and Angela with Carrie  
Shirley with Chloe  
Ian and Sandy with Dan

## Know Your Horses

### The Dressage Test

1. What letter comes between B and M?
2. How wide is a dressage arena?
3. List three qualities of the pony that dressage is designed to test.
4. Name three types of trot.
5. What determines the appropriateness of the dress of drivers and grooms?
6. Who marks the presentation of the turnout and what does it come under on the score sheet?
7. List three factors in a good transition.
8. What are the 4 elements in a rein back?
9. What one part of any element raises most criticisms?
10. How many penalties accrue for an error of course?