

# Equipment – The Rider

**Overview:** Intro to Advanced Medium tests– uniform, short jacket or tweed coat with correctly tied stock, white American collar or shirt and tie, and protective hat.

As long as the core dress rules are adhered to, embellishments and additions to any item of dress are permitted as long as they do not pose a welfare risk to the horse.

## Jackets

Jackets may be in any conservative colours in muted tones. Subtle pinstripes are permitted, as are coloured collars and contrast piping to collar, lapels, pockets and vents. The red collar and pockets with white piping on a navy jacket used by the British team may not be used. Tweed jackets may not be brightly coloured or have loud patterns.

Competitors may choose to ride without jackets but if they do must wear a fitted waistcoat in any conservative colour in muted tones. If no jacket is worn a suitable long/short sleeved shirt that fastens at the neck (white or cream and not bright or multi-coloured) with a tie, American collar or correctly fastened stock must be worn.

## Body Protectors

Riders may wear body protectors or inflatable air jackets.

## Hats

A 'riding hat', designed to provide protection, must be worn at all times when mounted by anyone, whether or not a competitor, at a competition, including when warming up or exercising,

Hats and hat covers may be in any conservative colour in muted tones. Hats that are completely mirrored are not permitted.

if a hat comes off during a dressage test, it must be replaced immediately; the rider may dismount or the hat may be handed to them. The test will be restarted at the beginning of the movement during which it came off. There will be no penalty for error of course, but if the hat is not replaced the Judge is to eliminate the competitor.

Protective hats must meet one of the following standards;

British – All PAS 015, VG1

European – VG1

It is strongly recommended that members wear hats bearing the BSi kitemark in addition to the published safety standard.

Harnesses must be correctly fastened at all times whilst mounted.

Competitors are strongly recommended to check their hats regularly and to replace them if damaged, or following a fall.

If a rider starts their test without wearing the correct headgear, the judge is to ring the bell and instruct the rider to dismount and leave the arena. At the discretion of the organiser and the judge, the rider may restart the test once properly attired. If a rider fails to comply with the instruction, the organiser is to eliminate the competitor from all classes on that day. This will also apply if, as a result of a spot-check, a rider's hat is found not to comply with the required standard.

### **Breeches/Jodhpurs**

Breeches or jodhpurs are to be plain white, cream or beige

### **Gloves**

Gloves are to be worn.

### **Boots**

Long riding boots designed for riding are to be worn. Short riding boots with gaiters of the same leather and colour as the boots may be worn.

### **Spurs**

Excessive use of spurs is forbidden.

Spurs may be worn at all levels and are mandatory from advanced level upwards

Spurs may not be worn upside down.

Spurs must be a pair (except when riding side saddle) and made of metal, although spurs with a smooth rotating rubber, metal or plastic ball on the shank are permitted. The band round the heel must be smooth; "comb" spurs are not permitted. Any shank on the back of the heel must point towards the rear and the end must be clearly horizontal to the ground or pointing downwards. Dummy spurs are permitted, as are swan neck spurs subject to the above restriction.

There is no restriction on the type of shank and rowels that are permitted provided that they are free to rotate and must be vertical to the ground. Rowels with points must have rounded ends.

### **Whips**

Riders may carry one whip in all classes. At no time may more than one whip be carried during a test or when warming up.

Excessive use of the whip is forbidden. A whip must not be used in a way or be of a length that disturbs other riders or horses, and may not be picked up if dropped during a test.

**When saluting, competitors must take the reins and whip, if carried, in one hand, to salute with the free hand.**