



British Dressage Music Licence

If you want to compete in Freestyle to Music competitions, whether affiliated or unaffiliated competitions, you need to get a music licence.

Now before you start to panic:

- a) It's not complicated
- b) It doesn't cost a fortune

However, if you want to do things properly and legally you must get a licence!!

The copyright protection act makes it illegal to play music in public without a licence. Dressage competitions count as 'in public'.

The music each competitor plays is seen as their own music, so each competitor has to have a licence for it to be played 'in public'!

NOTE: *If you are already a **Full British Dressage (BD) member** you are already covered to compete under BD's "bulk" deal with the music licensing authority. You won't have to become a **Music Member** of BD, but will you still have to complete a 'Music Sub-Licence Agreement'.*

If you are not a full British Dressage member, all is not lost. You too will need to complete a 'Music Sub-Licence Agreement' **PLUS** you will need to join British Dressage as a **Music Member**. You can download a British Dressage Music Membership form from our website or go to the British Dressage website www.britishdressage.co.uk/competitions/how_to_go_free_styleo.uk where you can download more information and the necessary forms. Currently (2009) it will cost you £26 per year to join BD as a Music Members or if you are a Riding Club Member you save £10 and it will only cost you £16 for the year – you just have to fill in your riding club membership number on the form.

Which ever membership you have you will need to meet the requirements of BD's "bulk" deal with the licensing authority.

You will need to complete a '**Music Licence Record Form**' and a '**Sub Licence Agreement**'. Copies of both forms can be downloaded from this website, or you can go to the British Dressage website listed above and download them there.

Before you go to your competition you will need to complete your '**Music Licence Record Form**' and '**Sub Licence Agreement**' forms.

To fulfil the terms of the 'bulk' deal licence BD holds, your music has to be specifically identified and this is what the '**Music Licence Record Form**' is for. It notes the title of the track, the recording artist and how much of each track is used on your recording. BD will send

Once you have filled out both forms, return them to the British Dressage office who will then send you stickers to put on your master CD or CD case to show that British Dressage and you have both done what the licence deal calls for.

When you've done all of that you are ready to compete, safe in the knowledge that you have followed all the rules and you can now just go ahead and enjoy yourself!