The Side Saddle Association®

Hints & Tips for Filming Your Test

We thought some guidance to give whoever is videoing your test for you might be helpful, so that you can submit a good test to be judged. It may take a couple of practice runs to get it right but the tips below should help.

Filming position

- Always film from behind where the judge would sit if it was a live competition – just behind the C marker outside of the arena.

- The video must remain recording continuously from just before the horse enters at A until move off after the final halt.

- Try not to film into the sun (if there is any!)

- If you can, try to rest whatever you are using on something that will keep the filming steady – you don't want to make the judge feel seasick!

Technique

- **Please film your video in landscape** so as to capture the whole arena

- **Your video MUST be verbally introduced by your camera person – rider and horse name, test being ridden and month you are entering. Failure to do this could result in your entry being judged HC!**

- Start the filming before the rider enters at A, e.g. as the rider passes the E or B marker

- Always keep the horse and rider in the centre of the frame and **try to ensure the judge can see the whole horse and arena markers at all times** . If you stand too close to C, then every time the rider passes C you just see the rider's leg/ horse's body!

- Sound must be recorded.

Zooming

- You will need to use the zoom at times (when the horse is at the A end of the arena) but try to avoid excessive zooming in and out. Just make sure the judge can see clearly the part of the arena the competitor is in and the whole horse and rider clearly.

Framing

- As a guide, the horse and rider should be in the centre and fill about half of the height (top and bottom of what they are filming) of the frame whenever possible. If the horse and rider fill too much of the picture, the judge can't see the detail of what they are judging.