



HOW TO QUALIFY GUIDE 2019 / 2020



Area Festivals

It's a big birthday year for the Petplan Equine Area Festivals! We're celebrating 20 years of thrilling Area Festival competition in partnership with Petplan Equine so please read through our handy document to learn how you can get involved.

The Petplan Equine Area Festivals were introduced in 1999 to give grassroots riders the opportunity to perform in true championship conditions at leading venues across Britain. Since then they have gone from strength to strength and the 2019 series is set to be the best yet.

Twenty four Area Festivals will take place in 2019 from which qualification for eight Area Festival Finals can be achieved. The top horse and rider combinations from the Finals will then go on to compete in the Area Festival Championships at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire in April 2020.

Registration

At all levels, with the exception of Preliminary Bronze, horse and rider will need full membership with British Dressage to qualify and then take part in any of the three rounds. At Preliminary Bronze, you can join British Dressage as a Club member and register your horse as Club also, costing just £45 for you both for the year. You can then take part in Prelim Bronze classes to gain your qualifying scores and then pay the difference to upgrade you and your horse as fully registered to compete at the Area Festival.

How to qualify for an Area Festival

To be part of the glitz and glamour of these prestigious shows, which run from May to September, is easier than you may think. All you need to do to qualify is compete at affiliated shows and score just 62% three times from Preliminary to Elementary at the same level, same section and 60% two times from Medium to Intermediate II same level, same section between 1 October 2018 and **14 days before the closing date** for entries for your chosen Area Festival. Silver riders from Prelim to Advanced Medium, you need one of your qualifying scores from a qualifying test labelled with a 'Q' in the schedule (see page 127 in the 2019 BD Members' Handbook for a full list of qualifying tests).

At all levels your qualification will be generated by the BD database. Members will receive notification by email once qualified, a copy of which should be sent with your entry form as proof of qualification. Qualifications can only be used once however you can qualify for more than one Area Festival if you acquire a second batch of three/two scores.

Scores from class tickets, freestyles, HC tests, Area Festivals, any Championships, inter-county competitions, Team Quest, My Quest may not be used to provide part qualification towards an Area Festival. Scores from BD Youth/Senior Home International, Senior Inter Regionals and U25 Championships may be used.

Eligibility

Group 1-8 riders may compete in Area Festivals up to and including Intermediate II according to normal eligibility rules.

Combinations competing at Winter/Summer Regional Championships are ineligible for any Area Festivals at that level or below in the same calendar year. i.e. if a combination qualifies for the Winter/Summer Regionals and decides to compete at the Regional Championships they will need to compete at a higher level in the Area Festival in the autumn of the same year.

For the 2019/2020 Petplan Equine Area Festival season, Under 21 riders will enter the first rounds in either the Bronze or Silver section depending on their qualification level. There will be a designated section for Under 21 riders at the Area Festival Finals. Under 21 levels are open to riders until the end of their 21st birthday year.

Taking part in an Area Festival

You enter in the normal way by downloading an entry form from the British Dressage website. On entering with the venue online you will also need to print off a copy of your qualification email to include with your form. Plus, in your qualification email, there'll be a link to download a biography form to complete and return with your entry so the commentators know all about you and your horse.

The venues have been hand-picked to host this special occasion so they'll pull out all the stops to make it memorable. Expect flowers, flags, podiums – just like a mini Olympics. Everyone who takes part will receive a commemorative Petplan Equine plaque.

The top ten combinations in each section at Area Festivals from Preliminary to Advanced Medium will qualify to compete in an Area Festival Final providing that a minimum of 60% is attained. You'll only be allowed to compete in one Area Festival Final but the choice of which is down to you.

Taking part in an Area Festival Final

Combinations qualify from Area Festivals Final to the Area Festival Championships on a proportional basis, providing that the minimum score of 63% is achieved depending on the total number qualified at each level and the number of starters at each Area Festival. Prix St Georges and Intermediate I/II combinations will qualify directly for the finals before going onto the Championships.

A table showing the ratio of qualifiers to starters and details of the proportional qualification basis for each class will be displayed at the Area Festival Finals.

Please note that the information given here is a simplified guide. You'll need to check out the 2019 British Dressage Members' Handbook for full details.

2019 Petplan Area Festivals

Please note that these fixtures are subject to change, keep an eye on the BD website for finalised dates.

Area Festivals

Venue (name and county)	Competition date	Close of entries	Qualification cut off
Wellington, Hampshire	23 - 25 May	2 May	18 April
Kingswood, Staffordshire	31 May - 2 June	10 May	26 April
Arena UK, Lincolnshire	8 - 9 June	18 May	4 May
Pachesham, Surrey	8 - 10 June	18 May	4 May
Moreton, Dorset	15 - 16 June	25 May	11 May
Tushingham, Cheshire	15 - 16 June	25 May	11 May
Brook Farm, Essex	28 - 30 June	7 June	24 May
Alnwick Ford, Northumberland	29 - 30 June	8 June	25 May
Allens Hill, Worcestershire	4 - 7 July	13 June	30 May
Aintree, Merseyside	4 - 7 July	13 June	30 May
Crofton Manor, Hampshire	5 - 7 July	14 June	31 May
Moreton Morrell, Warwickshire	18 - 21 July	23 June	13 June
Myerscough, Lancashire	25 - 28 July	4 July	20 June
Rockrose, Midlothian	27 - 28 July	6 July	22 June
Sheepgate, Lincolnshire	1 - 2 August	11 July	27 June
Forest Farm, Guernsey	2 - 4 August	15 July	30 June
Northallerton, North Yorkshire	9 - 11 August	19 July	5 July
Beacons, Carmarthenshire	10 - 11 August	20 July	6 July
Chester Hall, Kent	10 - 12 August	20 July	6 July
Duchy College, Devon	16 - 18 August	26 July	12 July
Keysoe, Bedfordshire	16 - 18 August	26 July	12 July
The Cabin, Inverurie	24 - 25 August	3 August	20 July
Hartpury, Gloucestershire	25 - 26 August	4 August	21 July
Sparsholt, Hampshire	30 August - 1 September	9 August	26 July

Area Festival Finals

Venue (name and county)	Date	COE
Manor Grange, Yorkshire	6 - 9 September	16 August
Field House, Staffordshire	19 - 22 September	29 August
Widmer, Buckinghamshire	26 - 29 September	5 September
Bicton Arena, Devon	2 - 4 October	4 September
Oldencraig, Surrey	4 - 6 October	13 September
Codham Park, Essex	4 - 6 October	13 September
Morris, Ayrshire	12 - 13 October	21 September
Beacons, Carmarthenshire	26 - 29 October	5 October