



Area Festivals

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 in 2018 Area Festivals have stepped it up a notch to become even bigger and better than before!

Twenty four Area Festivals will take place in 2018 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 2019. Also new for this year, special Under 21 recognition from Prelim to Medium to encourage young riders to get involved and give them their moment in the spotlight!

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 £40 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 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 2017 and 14 days before the closing date for entries for your chosen Area Festival. To qualify in the Silver section from Prelim to Advanced Medium one of your qualifying scores must be from a qualifying test labelled with a 'Q' in the schedule (see page 150 in the 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 must be sent with your entry form as proof of qualification. If you do not have an email address, you need to send the original sheets, with the date and venue of the class written on them, to the show organiser of the Area Festival you would like to go to, together with your entry form. Test sheets can only be used once, but it is a good idea to keep copies as they will not be returned to you. 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.

Taking part in an Area Festival

You enter in the normal way by downloading an entry form from the British Dressage website. You will also need to print off a copy of your qualification email to include with your form. Plus, in your 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.

Going to the Area Festival Championships in 2019

It may be a long wait over the winter months, but going to the Petplan Equine Area Festival Championships is a dream of any rider! Just taking part is a major achievement alone. At your Area Festival Final, you'll get a pack if you qualify to say well done.

Please note that the information given here is a simplified guide and that you will need to refer to the current British Dressage Rules for full details.

2018 Petplan Area Festivals

Please note that these fixtures are subject to change, keep an eye on this page for finalized dates.

Area Festivals

Rockrose	East Lothian	11 – 13 May
Arena UK	Lincolnshire	19 – 20 May
Kingswood	West Mids	1 – 3 June
Moreton	Dorset	2 – 3 June
Pachesham	Surrey	9 – 11 June
Alnwick ford	Northumberland	16 – 17 June
Tushingham	Cheshire	16 – 17 June
Brook Farm	Essex	29 June – 1 July
Allens Hill	Worcestershire	29 June – 2 July
Aintree	Merseyside	4 – 8 July
Crofton Manor	Hampshire	6 – 8 July
Moreton Morrell	Warwickshire	19 – 22 July
Myerscough	Lancashire	26 – 29 July
Sheepgate	Lincolnshire	3 – 5 Aug

Wellington	Hampshire	3 – 5 Aug
Duchy College	Cornwall	10 – 12 Aug
Chester Hall Events	Kent	11 – 13 Aug
Beacons	Carmarthenshire	11 – 12 Aug
Northallerton	North Yorkshire	17 – 19 Aug
Keysoe	Bedfordshire	18 – 20 Aug
Hartpury	Gloucestershire	24 – 27 Aug
The Cabin	Aberdeenshire	26 – 27 Aug
Jersey	Jersey	1 – 2 Sept
Sparsholt	Hampshire	30 Aug – 2 Sept

AREA FESTIVAL FINALS

Codham Park	Essex	14 – 16 Sept
Widmer	Buckinghamshire	19 – 23 Sept
Bicton Arena	Devon	26 – 28 Sept
Fieldhouse	Staffordshire	27 – 30 Sept
Oldencraig	Surrey	5 – 7 Oct
Morris	Renfrewshire	12 – 14 Oct
Manor Grange	West Yorkshire	19 – 21 Oct
Beacons	Carmarthenshire	27 – 29 Oct

AREA FESTIVAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

12 – 16 April 2019 – Area Festival Championships at Hartpury College, Gloucestershire