

Three Gaits Dressage and Combined Test Schooling Shows 2015 Combined Test Information

Since many people come to schooling shows to try something new, we thought it might be useful to point out a few things about combined tests that you may not know. While we will not observe all USEA sanctions, the following rules will be observed:

Dressage Phase:

- 1) Horses may not wear any type of leg protection (polo wraps, galloping boots, etc).
- 2) Horses may not wear any type of martingale.
- 3) You may not have a reader.
- 4) The dressage judge has the authority to decide that a horse may not continue on to the jumping phase of the combined test if it demonstrates 1. unsoundness or 2. disobedience/unsafe behavior during the dressage test.

Jumping Phase:

- 1) Enter the arena and halt before the judge.
- 2) At the whistle, you will have 45 seconds to pass through the start flags and begin your course. You may not pass through the start flags more than once before beginning your course. Be sure to pass through the finish flags after the final fence.
- 3) You may not receive assistance from any person while in the ring.
- 4) If a combination is flagged A/B or A/B/C and you have a refusal at one element of the combination, you must reattempt all elements of the combination.
- 5) "Crossing your line" counts as a refusal.
- 6) Jumping rounds will not be timed.

There are about a million ways to be eliminated in eventing. In most cases, we will point out situations where you would have been eliminated at a recognized event, and allow you to continue. However, we will draw the line at 60 seconds of disobedience in front of a fence (if you haven't already accrued your 3 refusals) or excessive speed or unsafe behavior in the warm-up or on course. Disobedience includes refusals and/or run-outs.

Faults at obstacles:

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| Knocking down an obstacle | 4 penalties |
| First disobedience | 4 penalties |
| Second disobedience in the whole test | 8 penalties |
| Third disobedience in the whole test | Elimination |
| First fall of competitor | 8 penalties |
| First fall of horse | Mandatory Retirement |
| Second fall of competitor | Elimination |

Scoring combined tests:

Combined tests are scored using penalty points. The formula for calculating penalty points for dressage tests is printed at the bottom of the test. Penalty points from dressage will be added to penalty points from the jumping round to give a total score. Lowest score (fewest penalty points) wins.