



NSEA General Rules 2019-20

including

NSEA Competition Rules for 2020

see also

NSEA Additional Rules for

NSEA National Qualifiers & NSEA Championships at Addington 2020

General Rules

The General & Competition Rules apply to membership, all competitions and include specific rules applying to particular events including the following: -

- 1) Grass Roots Qualifiers & Regional Championships(Pages 8 - 10) for Dressage & Show Jumping
- 2) Regional Points Leagues (for team competitions incl Grass Roots) (Pages 10 - 11)
- 3) County Show Jumping & Dressage Qualifiers & Championships (Pages 11 - 13)
- 4) NSEA Eventers Challenge Series (Page 14)
- 5) Royal Windsor Show Jumping Qualifiers (Page 15)
- 6) Hickstead Elite Show Jumping Qualifiers (Page 15)
- 7) NSEA /BE National Eventing ODE Points Leagues (Individual only) (Page 15)
- 8) NSEA Team & Individual Eventing Series (Page 16)
- 9) NSEA Pop-Up Dressage Winter Points League (Page 16)

For competitions which are NSEA National Championships Qualifiers and for the National Championships themselves, please see the Additional Rules (NSEA Dressage, Arena Eventing (JwS) & Show Jumping National Qualifiers)

The Rules in Sections A to F are General Rules and apply to all NSEA competitions.

A) Eligibility and Membership

A1) All Competing Schools must be current members of the NSEA.

A2) Membership runs from September 1st to August 31st inclusive each year and must be renewed before competing at NSEA competitions held after August 31st.

A3) To be eligible to compete at NSEA competitions, riders must be in full time education at the school they represent (see Competition Rules D2 for more information).

A member school must have registered the rider's name with the NSEA, as part of their riding squad. New riders coming into the school must be added to the affiliated list before they compete. Once a rider has been named as a member of the riding squad and a membership number has been given, they cannot be swapped for another, within the current membership year.

A4) Riders who are Home Schooled may compete as individuals and the Home School is registered in the usual way; a Home Schooled group may compete as a team, provided this is agreed with the NSEA Membership Office.

A5) Each School must obtain the consent of the Head Teacher in order to compete on behalf of their school; this consent should take the form of a positive response by the Head Teacher, to the approval request email sent by NSEA.

B) Team Managers

B1) Each School must nominate a Team Manager. In addition, two team assistants may be nominated. The Team Manager & Team Assistants may be members of the school staff or parents. If the Team Manager changes, please inform the NSEA promptly.

B2) The Team Manager will be expected to know these general rules, and the rules of the competition at which their School is competing. We understand that many Schools' Team Managers are volunteer parents, rather than professionals, so please note that, although these vary between competitions, the rules are kept as clear, easy to understand and concise as possible. It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that the Team Manager enters their son/daughter in competitions at an appropriate level commensurate with the child's ability and experience. The Team Manager also needs to ensure that all their horses have up to date flu vaccinations recorded in their passports. For major Championships (Nationals-Addington, Eventers Challenge & SJ- Hickstead, County-Hartpury & Plate-Keysoe these need to be 6 monthly)

B3) ONLY the Team Manager is to deal with the Secretary and/or officials of an event. Changes to team members / individuals must be made before the day of the competition and preferably before start times have been published. Changes on the day may only be made before the start of the class and only if there is an injury or incident which prevents a horse or rider from competing and will be at the discretion of the Competition Secretary. The NSEA will handle communications through the Team Manager.
The NSEA will not be held responsible for any financial loss incurred by the attendee, as a result of a cancellation. (see F6)

B4) In the event of an objection, the Team Manager must lodge a written objection with the Secretary within five minutes of the end of the class. This must be accompanied by a £20 deposit, which may be forfeited in the event of an unsuccessful appeal.

B5) The Team Manager is responsible for the conduct of all riders, parents and persons associated with their School, which includes the use of social media (See C4).

C) Codes of Conduct

C1) Team Managers.

The Team Manager is the school representative on the day. They need to ensure that riders and parents from their school display good sportsmanship, horsemanship and equine welfare at all times and adhere to the NSEA rules.

C2) Competitor's Code of Conduct

Competitors need to be aware of and abide by the rules of competition. Competitors need to be correctly turned out, according to the rules. Competitors must be aware that they are representing their school at all times and they need to be polite and considerate to all officials and fellow competitors. The welfare of their horse/ pony is of paramount importance. Competitors are expected to attend official Prize Giving's, **dressed in appropriate competition dress** ie show jackets for show jumping and dressage and XC kit for arena eventing. If a competitor is unable to attend, they will need to send a representative to attend for them. Competitors will forfeit any prizes / rosettes not collected at the prizegiving. Competitors are encouraged to thank the show organisers of the competition, before they leave. It is much appreciated.

C3) Parents' Code of Conduct

The Team Manager acts for the school. Parents must always defer to the Team Manager, including when making enquiries.

Parents need to be aware of the NSEA competition rules and abide by them. There should be no outside assistance, except in Grass Roots classes (40 & 50cm) and in Dressage. See specific Grass Roots and Dressage Rules for guidance.

Parents should be reminded that whilst NSEA events are competitive, it is the rider and not the parent who is competing.

Sportsmanship and respect for officials, Team Managers, other competitors and fellow Parents is of utmost importance.

The welfare of the horse/pony and child is of paramount importance.

All siblings always need to be under the guidance of their parents and may not ride if they are not competing.

C4) Social Media

Whilst the NSEA recognises the need for communication through social media, it must not be used as a medium to undermine the NSEA's reputation, in any way, nor to compromise the NSEA's confidentiality and child safeguarding policies.

Competition Rules that apply to ALL NSEA events

NSEA competitions will be run under the NSEA General Rules plus the rules set out below. The following rules are for all competitions listed on the NSEA website.

For those competing in NSEA National Championships Qualifiers (Qualifiers for Championships at Addington & the Plate at Keysoe) as well as the Championships & Plate themselves, please also see 'The Additional Rules'.

Every possible situation and circumstance cannot be provided for in the NSEA General and Additional Rules. In any unforeseen or exceptional circumstances, it is the duty of the adjudication committee or person acting on their behalf, to make a decision in the spirit of the Rules by approaching, as near as possible, the intention of the NSEA Rules.

In addition, the following will also apply to the relevant discipline :

Show Jumping – British Show Jumping Rules 2020

Dressage – British Dressage Rules 2020

Eventing – British Eventing Rules 2020

Jumping with Style – NSEA JWS Rules 2020 for scoring, British Eventing Rules 2020 for tack etc

D) Horses and Riders

D1) The 30cm Rule (General)

Any combination of horse and rider cannot compete in a jumping class at an NSEA competition, except hors concors, where the height is 30cm lower than that at which they have previously competed, (1st round height) in **any** competition (not just NSEA competitions). This restriction does not apply to Open or Advanced Open classes.

Therefore, Horse/Rider combinations jumping 1.30m or over may compete in NSEA Open or Advanced Open classes. If competing in a County Competition, please also see rule CchJQ1.

Please note: a rider competing hors concors in one class is not automatically excluded from competing in other classes above that height, at the same competition.

D2) Changing Schools

The definition of the word "Championships" as used in sub paragraphs a), b), c) & d) below includes Grass Roots Regional Finals, County Championships (April), Eventers Challenge Championships (May), Hickstead Elite Championships (August), The ODE Championships (September) and the National Championships (October) & Championships Plate (November).

a) A rider who changes schools in 2019/20 can only then compete for their new school, unless they qualified with their previous school, for the 2020 Championships, prior to moving schools, in which case, they can represent their previous school, but only at the Championships, with the Head Teacher of the previous School's permission.

b) If a rider qualifies for one school, then changes school, they may ride at the Championships for the original school (see "a" above). However, if they also qualify, in the same class, for their new school, they may compete for either school but not for both in the same class.

c) If a rider has changed schools since originally qualifying, they may compete for their old school at the Championships (see “a” above) and also qualify for other classes for their new school. However, a rider may only compete for one school per class at the Championships. Riders may, therefore, represent more than one School at the Championships if the qualifications are in different classes and the necessary permission is obtained from each School.

d) Once a rider leaves a school, they may no longer compete for that school (except at the Championships and providing they have qualified to do so, as detailed above). They may not, therefore, be used as a team “Wild Card” substitute for the Championships without prior qualification, as detailed above. A rider may not compete for their new school until they are enrolled at that school, and the School Year has started.

D3) School logos may be placed (in moderation) up to the maximum dimensions as follows:-

Saddlecloths – 200 sq cm

Hat covers – 3cm x 3cm

Jackets – 3cm x 3cm on the breast pocket

XC tops – 200sq cm (or 100 sq cm per arm)

Breeches (left leg only) – 20cm long, 4 cm wide

Sponsors logos may only appear once on either the horse or rider but not both and must be smaller than the school logo dimensions above.

D4) All horses are required to have an equine passport. Horses and ponies must be a minimum of 4 years of age, must be entered in NSEA classes under their BD/BE/BS registered name (is affiliated) and may only compete once per class (except grass roots) In most cases, the name will be that which is shown in their equine passport (not their stable name) The passport must display their valid vaccination record (see rule D13) and be taken to all NSEA competition, where spot checks may take place.

D5) Stallions may only compete in NSEA competitions with prior written permission of the competition organiser and should be identified on the competition entry form. This must be sought in advance of the entry closure date. The stallion must then wear a stallion disc. Please also be mindful that not all competitors will realise that the horse is a stallion.

D6) All competitors and horses should look clean, neat and tidy. Long hair should be put in a hairnet for Dressage, One Day Events, Arena Eventing and Show Jumping.

Hair should not be worn below collar length in any NSEA competitions.

D7) Hat Rules

Team Managers should ensure that their riding squad have hats & safety equipment of the correct standard and that they are checked regularly. Competitors are strongly advised to check their hats regularly or take them to a reputable hat supplier to be checked. The NSEA recommend that hats are replaced following a fall or checked after any impact.

For Dressage & Show Jumping:

British and European: PAS 015 (1998 or 2011) and VG01.040 2014-12, all with BSI Kitemark or Inspec IC Mark

Australia and New Zealand: AS/NZS 3838 2006 onwards with SAI Global mark

American: ASTM F1163: 2004a onwards with SEI mark Snell 2001 or 2016 (no other mark is needed with Snell)

For Cross Country, Arena Eventing, JwS, Eventers Challenge:

Only a “Jockey’s Skull Cap” may be worn with the kite marks above, this must have no peak, peak type extensions or noticeable protuberances above the eyes. A removable hat cover with a light flexible peak may be used if required. Cameras may not be worn on any hat while riding.

D8) Tack should fit correctly and all safety equipment should be of working standard and worn at all necessary times.

D9) The NSEA recommends that any competitor who falls off during any sort of warm up should always find a Medic and be checked over before they compete. Any official attending will be able to advise of the location of the Medical Team.

D10) Boys and girls will compete in the same classes.

D11) All competitors attending prize givings must be correctly dressed. An Organiser reserves the right to withhold rosettes and prizes if they see fit.

D12) Horses may only be ridden by NSEA competitors at an NSEA competition. A horse is not to be ridden or warmed up by anyone other than the rider who is competing that horse at that competition. Horses may only be lunged in designated lunging areas, by prior permission of the Show Organiser.

D13) All horses / ponies competing in NSEA events must be vaccinated against equine influenza as follows:-

a) Two injections for the primary vaccination, not less than 21 days or more than 92 days apart. Both are required before a horse/pony may compete.

b) A booster injection 150-215 days after the second injection of the primary vaccination.

c) Subsequent booster injections must be given each year, within and not exceeding the 1 year period (see below), commencing after the first booster injection.

d) Some venues require 6 monthly boosters, as does the NSEA at all major Championships. If in doubt, please check with the Show Secretary of the relevant competition.

E) Teams/Individuals

E1) Teams to consist of at least three, and at most four, riders, unless the rules that are specific to a particular competition state otherwise.

E2) At competitions where both teams & individuals are taking part, the scores of all team competitors, obtained whilst riding as a team member, will automatically also count as their individual score, when determining the individual placings. This also applies to team riders competing at the NSEA Championships, who have also qualified to compete as individuals. Please note that all horse/rider combinations must have pre-qualified to compete as individuals at the Championships.

E3) The best three scores count in a team competition. A team which does not register at least three valid scores will be eliminated. However, any individual scores, registered as part of an eliminated team, will still be counted in individual competitions, where applicable.

E4) All riders must be from the same Member School and be registered with the NSEA in the riding squad of that School. (see Competition Rules D2 for more information)

E5) Riders may only compete once in a team, so may not ride two horses in the same team, except in Grass Roots competitions – see specific Grass Roots rules.

E6) At local level (GR & RPL) jumping, an individual may ride 3 different horses in any one class, and those horses may be ridden in up to 3 classes. Therefore, a horse/rider combination may compete in 3 teams at different heights – see specific Grass Roots and RPL rules.

In County qualifying Competitions (Cchq), an individual may ride a maximum of three different horses in any one class and a horse/rider combination may compete in 2 teams at the County qualifier, providing that they are at 2 different adjacent heights. (ie 70cm & 80cm, 80cm & 90cm, 90cm & 1m but not 70cm & 90cm or 80 & 1m see rule CchJQ1) No rider may compete in 70cm & 1m classes.

E7) Each team of four at a Championships must include two out of the original qualified four horse/rider combinations. **However, if, in exceptional circumstances, a previously qualified team has only one of the original horse/rider combinations remaining, the School may be permitted, at the discretion of the NSEA, to substitute two new horse/rider combinations to make up a team of three.**

A Team Manager may have up to two wild card substitutions providing they fulfil the following criteria and all other restrictions listed in these rules:

a) The substitute horse/rider combination, should have successfully completed an NSEA Competition in the same year or a B.E, BS or Pony Club competition, at the same level or above, or may, in some cases, be included at the discretion of the Team Manager, providing the circumstances have been discussed with and agreed by the NSEA.

b) A team may qualify with a team of only three riders, then take a fourth as one wild card, providing they fulfil the above criteria (see 'a')

c) If a team rider is eliminated at a qualifier and their team goes on to qualify, that rider may not compete at the Championships unless they successfully complete at another competition, at the same level or above and their entry is sent with an authorising letter from their Team Manager.

d) A school, having qualified a team, may not qualify the same team of horse/rider combinations again, in the same class (same discipline, same height) and then split that team, to create two teams comprising two of the original horse/rider combinations in each team and drafting in two wild card substitute combinations into each, in order to turn the original qualified team of four horse/rider combinations into two teams for the Championships.

E8) Individual qualification refers to the horse/rider combination and therefore, neither the horse nor rider may be substituted at a Championships.

F) Powers of Judges/Show Organisers

F1) The Judges and Show Organisers have the right to stop any competitor during their round and/or subsequently eliminate them if they deem the following:

That a rider, horse or combination is unsafe or poses an unacceptable risk to themselves, their horse or others.

That a rider is unfit to compete.

That a horse is unsound or distressed

That a rider or person associated with the rider, has used any unacceptable force on a horse, anywhere at an event.

That a person has, in the opinion of the Organiser or Judges, forced a child to compete against their express wishes

This is not to discourage encouraging the child to challenge their abilities.

Any rider who has benefitted unfairly from outside assistance. This is not to discourage support and encouragement.

Any rider, or Team Manager, supporter or other associated person who is abusive, uncooperative, or rude to any Official.

In the event of a dispute, the NSEA will act as the final arbiter.

F2) The Judges and Show Organisers have the right to require any competitor to satisfactorily complete the following before they are permitted to compete:

- An examination of the rider by a member of medical staff.

- An examination of the horse by a vet.

- An examination by an official of any item of equipment or tack.

- An examination of evidence of their Membership of their School's Riding Squad.

F3) The end of the show will be deemed to be half an hour after the last horse competes.

F4) The NSEA Knockdown/Late Drop Rule

The 'knockdown rule' is to be applied in all NSEA Jumping competitions. It is to be used over the British Eventing and British Show Jumping rules covering knockdowns and 'late drops'. The rule is designed to bring clarity and uniformity to NSEA jumping competitions.

A 'knockdown' is interpreted as the lowering of the height of a fence caused by the competitor. The lowering of the fence must have occurred before the competitor crosses the finish line.

The pole does not need to actually strike the ground, merely come to a position lower than its starting place.

Knocking down lower poles or planks will not count as a penalty- only the upper pole.

The below examples are hoped to provide some 'practical application' of the rule - all are taken from real scenarios.

Example 1 - the pole falls onto a filler, not the floor.

4 faults as the fence's height was lowered by the competitor.

Example 2 - the pole does not leave the cup, but the retractable wing/stand's height is reduced by an impact.

4 faults as the fence's height was lowered by the competitor.

Example 3 - planks begin swinging in the cup due to an impact from a competitor, but actually leave the cup and fall AFTER the competitor has crossed the finish line.

No faults. The alteration in the height of the fence occurred after the competitor had crossed the line, even if the cause of that alteration occurred prior to the finish.

F5) Balloting

A) If entries at Qualifiers for Eventers Challenge, Hickstead Elite, Grass Roots & Windsor Qualifiers are over-subscribed, balloting out will take place in the following order:

- 1) Entries that are received after the 'entries closure' date and any entry without the current NSEA Membership number correctly quoted, or without payment of the correct entry fee being received prior to the ballot date.
- 2) Third teams per school per class, and those from the same school who are entered only as individuals in that class.
- 3) Second teams per school per class.
- 4) First teams per school per class, and remaining individuals who are not part of a team.

B) Balloting at County Qualifiers if entries are over-subscribed.

- 1) Entries that are received after the 'entries closure' date and any entry without the current NSEA Membership number correctly quoted.
- 2) **All teams / individuals from schools situated outside the relevant County will balloted out before 3 & 4**
- 3) Third teams per school per class, and those from the same school who are entered only as individuals in that class.
- 4) Second teams per school per class.

C) Balloting at Grass Roots Regional Championships.

Competitors who qualify for Grass Roots Regional Finals are eligible to compete in as many of the regional finals as they wish, however if entries are over subscribed at any particular final, balloting will take place. Priority will be given on a first come, first served basis.

D) On line entries

The online entry system for most events is set up on a first-come, first served basis.

In the event that any one of the above exclusions reduces eligible entries for the class to below the number of maximum entries allowed, the Show Organiser will draw names out of a hat from those who were previously ineligible, to fill the class

F6) Entering NSEA Competitions

Only pupils currently registered with the NSEA, may be entered into any NSEA competition.

Pupils may only compete if they have permission from the Head Teacher / Team Manager

Refunds will only be given on receipt of a Vet / Doctor's certificate

The NSEA will not be held responsible for any financial loss incurred by any entrant, their associates or attendees as a result of a re-arrangement to the schedule, postponement or cancellation of a competition.

Rules for Specific Competitions

- 1) Grass Roots Qualifiers & Regional Championships (Pages 8 - 10) for Dressage & Show Jumping
- 2) Regional Points Leagues (for team competitions incl Grass Roots) (Pages 10 & 11)
- 3) County Show Jumping & Dressage Qualifiers & Championships (Pages 11 - 13)
- 4) NSEA Eventers Challenge Series (Page 14)
- 5) Royal Windsor Show Jumping Qualifiers (Page 15)
- 6) Hickstead Elite Show Jumping Qualifiers (Page 15)
- 7) NSEA/BE ODE Points Leagues (Individual only) (Page 15)
- 8) NSEA Team & Individual Eventing Series (Page 16)
- 9) NSEA Pop-Up Dressage Winter Points League (Page 16)

The number of teams / individuals to qualify for different Championships

Qualifying Competition	Teams to qualify per section	Individuals to qualify	Rider Age
Grass Roots Regional Champs	6	6	U19 1 st Jan 2020
RPL (NSEA Champs)	3 per region	Team only	
County Show Jumping & Dressage	1	1	70cm U14 on 1 st Jan 2020 80cm upwards U19 1 st Jan 2020
Eventers Challenge (Hickstead) May	2	4	U19 1 st Jan 2020
Windsor	2 teams (1 team per school ONLY) at Windsor	Team only	U19 1 st Jan 2020
Hickstead Elite (Aug)	2	2	U19 1 st Jan 2020
Pop Up Dressage	Individual only	8 in each section	U19 1 st Jan 2020
Eventing Champs	6	6	U19 1 st Jan 2020
BE Points league	Individual only	Top 10 in each section	U19 1 st Jan 2020
National Champs (CHQ) DR, SJ, JwS	2	4	70cm U14 on 1 st Jan 2020 80cm upwards U19 1 st Jan 2020
Champs Plate	3 rd – 8 th	5 th – 8 th	70cm U14 on 1 st Jan 80cm upwards U19 1 st Jan 2020

1) NSEA Grass Roots Competitions (GR)

The purpose of the Grass Roots programme is to provide very novice riders with the opportunity to experience the excitement of competition. The rules are, therefore, kept as flexible as possible but, please embrace the “spirit” of the rules. Please do not use Grass Roots competitions as an easy opportunity to “pot hunt,” as it is not in the spirit of the competition.

The top 6 teams & individuals at qualifiers will be eligible to compete at any Regional Grass Roots Championships.

GR1) Classes & Eligibility

Riders eligible for the age-related additional prize need to wear a white armband in order to be easily identifiable to the judge (for 40, 50 & 60cm classes)

40cm Grass Roots classes are judged on rider position and style only over a simple course of fences. Riders may be led or assisted. Classes may be split into a) led and b) assisted. This class is for genuine novice riders only. There will be an additional prize for the best rider aged under 6yrs on 1st Jan 2020.

ANY RIDER who has competed in ANY 70cm class (or higher) on ANY pony at ANY competition (not just NSEA) is NOT eligible for this class, (except h/c if space permits)

50cm Grass Roots classes will be a single-phase competition. May be assisted but not led. There will be an award for the best rider aged under 7yrs on 1st Jan 2020. This class is for genuine novice riders only.

ANY RIDER who has competed in ANY 80cm class (or higher) on ANY pony in ANY competition (not just NSEA) is immediately ineligible for Grass Roots 40 & 50 cm qualifiers & Championship classes.

Also, ANY PONY / RIDER COMBINATION that have competed at 70cm in ANY competition (not just NSEA) are NOT eligible for this class, (except h/c if space permits)

60cm Grass Roots classes will be single phase competitions, no outside assistance. There will be an award for the best rider aged under 8yrs on 1st Jan 2020. Horse/ Rider combinations who have **completed** courses at 80cm (at ANY competition, not just NSEA competitions) may only compete h/c in 60cm classes, unless they ride a different pony.

70cm Grass Roots classes. Single phase, no outside assistance Riders jumping at this level are not eligible for 40cm Grass Roots on ANY pony. Rider / pony combinations jumping at this level are NOT eligible for 50cm classes.

75cm Grass Roots (Open). Individual class only. Single phase, no outside assistance. This is a progressive class to bridge the gap between Grass Roots & other NSEA classes. It is open to Grass Roots riders / combinations who are starting to jump 80cm classes.

GR2) Riders are U19 on 1st Jan 2020. Minimum age 4 years. Riders must attend a primary / pre-prep school.

GR3) As stated above, novice riders may be assisted and/or led at 40cm and assisted (not led) at 50cm with the Team Manager's permission.

People entering the ring to assist do so at their own risk.

60cm and above are not allowed to have any assistance, whilst in the arena.

GR4) Up to 3 refusals are allowed in Grass Roots classes.

GR5) A rider may ride two ponies/horses in the same team, at a Grass Roots competition, providing the school has only one team in the class.

GR6) Two riders may ride the same pony/horse in the same team, at a Grass Roots competition, providing the school has only one team in the class.

GR7) Horse/ Rider combinations may compete in **2 consecutive classes at qualifiers & 2 consecutive classes** at the Grass Roots Regional Championships. (The only exception is 60, 70 & 75cm classes)

Scenario: A rider may enter pony A in 40 & 50 classes, then ride pony B in 50 & 60.

However, a rider may not ride pony A in 40 & 50 and then pony B in 60 & 70

GR8) A pony may jump a maximum of 3 rounds in a day at any Grass Roots qualifier if it is shared between 2 riders. At a Regional Championships a pony may jump 4 rounds providing it is shared between riders who are competing at different heights. A pony may not compete with the same 2 riders in 2 teams at 2 heights. A pony / rider combination may only compete once in any class

GR9) Once a rider has **competed** at 90cm on any horse, they are no longer a Grass Roots rider and may not take part in any further Grass Roots qualifiers or Grass Roots Regional Championships.

GR10) An Organiser reserves the right to refuse an entry if he / she feels that the spirit of Grass Roots Rules is being challenged, in order to gain an un-fair advantage.

Other Grass Roots Competitions

GR11) Grass Roots County Challenge Team & Individual 60cm

In each region there will be a 60cm Grass Roots County competition. The highest placed team & Individual from the respective County will be crowned County Champion for the year.

GR12) Grass Roots Eventers Challenge 60 & 70cm

As an introduction to Eventers Challenge competitions, Grass Roots EC is held over working hunter style rustic fences. Types of jumps include a stile or skinny fence, arrowhead, brush etc and are all knock downable on safety cups.

GR13) Grass Roots Dressage include Walk & Trot tests, which may be led / assisted. Competitions may also include a simple Prelim test, which may be called but not led or assisted.

Grass Roots Regional Championships.

GR14) You may compete in ANY of the Grass Roots Regional Championship, including more than one, providing there is no need to ballot. Priority, for entries, will be given to competitors who have not already competed at a Regional Championships in the current season.

GR15) Individual qualifications are for the combination of horse & rider, not just the rider or horse. Therefore, you may not substitute either the horse OR the rider to compete at the Championships.

GR16) Team Qualifications

Each team of four at a Grass Roots Regional Championships must include two out of the original qualified four horse/rider combinations. **However, if, in exceptional circumstances, a previously qualified team has only one of the original horse/rider combinations remaining, the School may be permitted, at the discretion of the NSEA, to substitute two new horse/rider combinations to make up a team of three.**

GR17) The NSEA recognises that children can progress quickly at times, therefore if riders are competing at a higher level than they have qualified for, it is possible to ‘up-grade’ your qualification to the next class up. Please speak to the Show Organiser.

Grass Roots Heights

40cm	Teams & individuals. May be assisted and/or led. Judged on style only.
50cm	Teams & individuals. May be assisted (not led). Single phase.
60cm	Teams & individuals. No assistance. Single phase.
70cm (Introductory)	A simple course to prepare riders for 70cm RPL. No assistance. Single phase.
75cm (Introductory)	To help bridge the gap between Grass Roots and Championship Qualifiers. No assistance. Single phase.

2) Regional Points Team Leagues (RPL)

RPL is a TEAM competition. The disciplines listed below are included in the RPL Points Leagues.

RPLs include:

- Dressage, Show Jumping, NSEA Team ODE classes
- Grass Roots team classes
- County Dressage & Show Jumping team Qualifiers
- Eventers Team Challenge series (points awarded in the region of the event’s location)
 - Windsor Show Jumping Qualifiers
 - National Championships (Addington) Team Qualifiers

The competitions listed below are not included in the RPL Points Leagues.

RPLs do not include:

- National Championships, Plate Championships, County Championships
- Eventers Team Challenge Championships, Hickstead Elite Championships
- Windsor & Hickstead Elite Finals
- Individual classes
- NSEA BE Eventing Points League

RPL1) Regional Points are allocated in the region in which you compete, NOT where the school is located. It is possible to be included in two or more league tables if you compete in different regions. However, points gained are specific to a region and therefore, points gained in more than one region cannot be added together.

Region	Counties where competitions are held
1 South West	Cornwall, Devon, Somerset, Dorset
2 South Central	Surrey, Berks, Bucks, Hertfordshire, Greater London
3 South East	Hants, Isle of Wight, W Sussex, E. Sussex, Kent
4 Central West & South Wales	Wilts, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, South Wales
5 East	Cambs, Norfolk, Essex, Suffolk

6 Midlands West & North Wales	Hereford, Worcs, W Mid, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Cheshire, Lancashire, Greater Manchester, Merseyside, North Wales
7 Midlands East	Warwickshire, Northamptonshire, Leicestershire & Rutland, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Bedfordshire & Milton Keynes
8 North	Yorkshire, Co Durham, Cleveland, Northumberland, Cumbria
9 Scotland	Scotland

RPL2) Points shall be awarded as follows 1st = 6pts, 2nd = 5pts, 3rd = 4pts, 4th = 3pts, 5th = 2pts, 6th = 1pt.

RPL3) The winning team from each Region, at the end of Aug 31st, shall be deemed the Regional Points League winner. The top 3 schools in each region will qualify to compete in the NSEA Regional Points Leagues Team Mixed Height Finals at the NSEA Championships in October 2020

- The squad of up to 8 separate horse/rider combinations, who are entered to compete at the Championships, must have represented the School at RPL competitions in any discipline, during that qualifying year.
- The squad may comprise of up to 2 riders at each of the following heights 2 x 70cm, 2 x 80cm, 2 x 90cm & 2 x 1m. The best 4 scores to count. The 30cm rule applies. The final at the championships is a show jumping competition and may include a range of show jumps eg a stile, planks, a viaduct wall, brush fence etc

RPL4) Regional Points Leagues competitions are single phase.

RPL5) A horse/rider combination may compete in 3 teams at different heights (but not at 70cm if they jump at 1m).

RPL6) Up to 2 refusals are allowed in these classes.

RPL7) In RPL Competitions ONLY, riders competing in a 70cm class may be any age up to U19 on 1st Jan 2020. However, if that class is also a 70cm County or CHQ Qualifier, then all the riders in the class must be U14 on the 1st January 2020

RPL8) The 30cm Rule (General) applies Any combination of horse and rider cannot compete in a jumping class at an NSEA competition, except hors concors, where the height is 30cm lower than that at which they have previously competed, (1st round height) in **any** competition (not just NSEA competitions). This restriction does not apply to Open or Advanced Open classes. Therefore, Horse/Rider combinations jumping 1.30m or over may only compete in NSEA Open or Advanced Open classes. If jumping in a County Qualifier see additional rule **CchJQ1**

70cm	Riders U19 1 st Jan 2020, except when also a County / CHQ Qualifier (U 14 1 st Jan 2020). Combinations may not have jumped 1m or above
80cm	Combinations may not have jumped 1.10m or above
90cm	Combinations may not have jumped 1.20m or above.
1m & 1.10m	Open to all competitors and combinations

3) County Show Jumping & Dressage Qualifiers (CchQ) & Championships

NSEA Competition BD & BS Rules.

County Dressage Championships – Hartpury College 17th April 2020

County Show Jumping Championships – Hartpury College 17th -19th April 2020

Age for the 2020 Championships. Riders must be U14 (aged 13 or less) on 1st Jan 2020 for ANY Mini (70-75cm) 2020 County Qualifier. Therefore, please take particular notice if a qualifier is held in autumn 2019.

CchQ1) To be eligible to gain a qualification in this competition, the school must be situated in the County for which the qualifying competition is held.

CchQ2) There is only ONE County qualifying competition per County. The venue of the competition might not be located in the County for which the competition is a qualifier. Schools may also compete in County Qualifier Competitions, which are not qualifiers for their County, however, their results will only count towards their RPL total.

CchQ3) The highest placed Team and Individual, from a school located in the relevant County, will qualify to represent their school and their County, at the NSEA National County Championships 2020. At a competition, that is a Qualifier for more than one County, the highest placed Team & Individual, from a school located in each relevant County will qualify.

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS - Further Qualifications

National Championships

At the County Championships, the winning and second placed teams & individuals (National County Team & Individual Champion and Reserve Team & Individual Champion) in both the dressage & show jumping disciplines will qualify to compete at the NSEA National Championships in October 2020

Nations Cup

The top 2 riders at 70cm, 80cm, 90cm & 1m (Show Jumping riders competing either as part of a team or as an individual) will be invited to compete in the NSEA Nations Cup Mixed Height Competition to be held at the NSEA National Championships in October 2020.

How to qualify.

ENGLAND- National County Championships at Hartpury in April

WALES - North Welsh schools can qualify at South View in September & Southern Welsh Schools at Hartpury in June 2020 (1 individual from each qualifier)

SCOTLAND- Scottish schools qualifier will be at ISEC in September. (see NSEA website for details).

3A) County Show Jumping Qualifying Competitions (CchJQ)

CchJQ1) Qualifying heights for teams and individuals County competitions are 70, 80, 90cm, 1m & 1.10 (for individuals). Horse/Rider combinations may only compete in two consecutive classes and these can be 70cm & 80cm, 80cm & 90cm, 90cm & 1m or 1m & 1.10, but not 70cm & 90cm or 80 & 1m etc.

A rider may compete in more than two classes, providing they are not riding the same horse. Therefore, they can compete at 70cm & 80cm riding one horse and also at 80cm & 90cm riding another.

No rider (even if they are riding a different horse) may compete in both 70cm & 1m County classes.

An individual may ride a maximum of three different horses in any one class.

There will also be a Grass Roots County 60cm competition in each region for Teams & Individuals. **This will NOT be a qualifier for Hartpury.**

CchJQ2) Riders must be U14 in the year of the County Championships, ie on Jan 1st 2020 to be eligible to compete in 70cm qualifying classes for the 2020 County Championships.

CchJQ3) County Show Jumping Qualifiers will be single phase competitions. However, the format may be changed at the Championships.

CchJQ4) Up to 2 refusals are allowed in these classes.

CchJQ5) Each team of four at a Championships must include two out of the original qualified four horse/rider combinations. However, if, in exceptional circumstances, a previously qualified team has only one of the original horse/rider combinations remaining, the School may be permitted, at the discretion of the NSEA, to substitute two new horse/rider combinations to make up a team of three.

Any wild card riders who are substituted into a team must either have completed a competition, at the relevant height, or be at the discretion of the Team Manager and confirmed by the NSEA.

Individual qualification refers to the horse/rider combination and therefore, neither the horse nor rider may be substituted at the Championships.

CchJQ6) The 30cm Rule (General) applies Any combination of horse and rider cannot compete in a jumping class at an NSEA competition, except hors concors, where the height is 30cm lower than that at which they have previously competed, (1st round height) in **any** competition (not just NSEA competitions). This restriction does not apply to Open or Advanced Open classes. Therefore, Horse/Rider combinations jumping 1.30m or over may compete in NSEA Open or Advanced Open classes.

CchJQ7) RPL points will be awarded – but riders must be U14 in mini classes to be eligible for CchJQ. RPL points will NOT be awarded at the National County Championships.

CchJQ8) No outside assistance is allowed in the arena.

Mini (Team & Individual)	70cm	Riders Under 14 on Jan 1 st 2020. Horse/rider combination cannot also compete at 90cm County Qualifier.
Novice (Team & Individual)	80cm	U19 on Jan 1 st 2020. Horse/rider combination cannot also compete at 1.00m County Qualifier. Also see 30cm Rule
Intermediate (Team & Individual)	90cm	U19 on Jan 1 st 2020. See 30cm Rule Combination may not have jumped 1.20m
Open Team & Individual	1.00m	U19 on Jan 1 st 2020. Horse/rider combinations competing at 1m are not eligible for individual qualification at 70cm or 80cm Also see 30cm Rule

3B) County Team & Individual Dressage Qualifying Competitions (CchDQ)

There is a team and individual competition at Prelim level and an individual competition at Novice level.

CchDQ1) Two horse/ rider combinations from the original qualifying team MUST be included and declared at the Championships. Individual qualification refers to the horse/rider combination and therefore, neither the horse nor rider may be substituted at the Championships.

CchDQ2) Dressage teams are made up of 3 or 4 riders, all riding the same Prelim test. All team rider's scores also automatically count for individual Prelim placings. A rider who is not a part of a team, may compete as an individual.

CchDQ3) The test for 2020 Team and Individual Prelim Qualifiers is Prelim 14 (2006) revised 2016

CchDQ4) The test for 2020 Individual Novice Qualifiers is Novice 27 (2007)

CchDQ5) The County Dressage Team and Individual Prelim qualifier is open to horse & rider combinations that have not competed at British Dressage Novice level or above. Therefore, horse & rider combinations may compete at BD bronze prelim and silver prelim level and may have gained prelim points. Riders may have also competed at NSEA Novice level, but not Elementary (BD or NSEA).

CchDQ6) If a Horse/rider combination gains further points after qualification and it takes them over the threshold, they will forfeit their qualification to compete at the County Championships.

CchDQ7) The County Dressage Individual Novice series is open to rider/horse combinations not to have competed at BD Medium level or above or BE Intermediate level.

CchDQ8) Dressage tests may be called at qualifiers, however, not at the Championships. Headsets may be used in the warm up area but not during any test at any competition. Dressage whips may be carried in warm up arenas and during tests at qualifiers but not during the test at County Championships.

CchDQ9) There will be a rosette for the highest placed U12 (on 1st Jan 2020) rider in the prelim class at each County qualifier and the rider will be crowned junior County Champion. They will also qualify for a separate U12 Championship class at Hartpury.

4) NSEA Eventers Challenge Series 2020 (EC)

The Eventers Challenge Championships 2020 is at the All England Jumping Course, Hickstead 23rd-25th May 2020.

The intention of these rules is to reward riders who have a clear round and to penalise riders who have jumping penalties or who are significantly faster than the Optimum Time. Riders are penalised for riding too fast rather than too slow in order to encourage good riding.

Riders aim to complete their round as close to the Optimum time as possible. Where there are several competitors with a clear round, then the nearest to the Optimum Time will win, rewarding an appropriate judgement of pace around the course.

EC1) Open to Teams and Individuals

- Riders will jump a course of 5-8 show jumps and then proceed immediately into the XC phase of 10-15 simulated XC fences, depending on the size of the arena.
- The speed for the combined SJ & XC phases will be between 325m/m to 375m/m depending on the size of the arena – smaller arena = tighter turns which slow you down. A larger arena with flowing lines will ride on a quicker time. The speed for each class will be given in the schedule or on the noticeboard at the event. Times will be recorded to one-hundredth of a second if the timing equipment allows. The judges reserve the right to adjust the Optimum Time after the first 5 horses (if they deem the Optimum time has been set too fast / too slow) and will notify competitors of any change immediately.
- NSEA/BE Eventing Rules for tack and rider equipment for XC. No stopwatches allowed. No outside assistance.
- There will be no style mark and no age restriction on the mini (70/75) class.
- Top two teams and 4 Individuals at each height (70cm, 80cm, 90cm & 1m) to qualify for the NSEA Eventers Challenge Championship to be held at Hickstead in May. (Full details on the NSEA website)

EC2) Dress: XC colours, body protectors are compulsory. Hair must be above collar length, long hair to be kept in place in a hair net. Rider must wear BE approved skull caps, no fixed peak SJ hats.

EC3) The competitor with the fewest penalties wins. In the event of a tie, the competitor closest to the optimum time will be the winner. In the team competition, the total of the best three scores is used to place the team. The combined difference from the Optimum Time of the 3 best scores is used to break any ties.

EC4) Organisers are asked to ensure that the XC phase includes elements that give a choice about the track and therefore, the time taken. Organisers are asked not to display a clock showing the time taken, visible to the rider, as the aim is to educate riders to ride by rhythm and feel, rather than looking at a clock or stopwatch.

XC fences may include fences that you would see on a XC course. Larger arenas may include banks, steps, water complexes and BE style approved portable fences etc. Other XC type fences may include rustic show jumps, palisades, brushes & arrowheads etc that may knock down (incurring jumping penalties)

Penalties are awarded as follows

Knockdown (to include SJ and knock able XC fences)	4 penalties
1st Refusal	4 penalties
2nd Refusal	8 penalties
3rd Refusal	Elimination
Rider Fall	Elimination
Horse Fall	Elimination
Starting before the bell, retaking an obstacle already jumped, error of course or outside assistance	Elimination
Where the Optimum Time is 120 seconds or less, for every commenced second in excess of 10 seconds under the optimum time	1 penalty
Where the Optimum Time more than 120 seconds, for every commenced second in excess of 15 seconds under the optimum time	1 penalty
Exceeding time limit (2 times the Optimum Time)	Elimination

5) Royal Windsor Horse Show NSEA Intermediate Team SJ Qualifiers & Final (WQ)

In order to compete in the NSEA 90-95cm Schools Show Jumping Final at the Royal Windsor Horse Show 2020, schools need to qualify at one of the limited number of qualifying competitions held throughout the country. **The top 2 teams, from each qualifier, will qualify to compete at the Final to be held at Windsor** in May 2020 providing they are from different schools. The organisers of RWHS reserve the right to award a few wildcards to the competition and amend, as they see fit. For the full list of qualifiers, please go to the NSEA Competitions page on the NSEA website / NSEA qualifiers for Windsor.

A school may only qualify ONE team for this competition.

Two horse/ rider combinations from the original qualifying team **MUST** be included and declared at the Windsor final. Teams to be made up of 3 or 4 riders, the best 3 scores to count at both qualifiers & the final.

6) The Hickstead Elite Show Jumping Qualifiers Series (HEQ)

In order to compete in the Hickstead Elite Championships classes at Hickstead in August 2020, schools need to qualify at one of the limited number of qualifying competitions held throughout the country. Single phase. Fences may be raised 5cm at the championships

There will be two qualifying classes

a) Hickstead Elite 1m Teams

Top 2 teams to qualify. If a school qualifies more than one team, those qualifying teams must comprise different horse/rider combinations.

Two horse/ rider combinations from the original qualifying team **MUST** be included and declared at the Hickstead Championships.

b) Hickstead Elite 1.10m Individuals

This class is split into a) horses and b) ponies

The original horse/rider combination must be the same one that qualified. No substitutions of horse or rider may be made in this class. **The top 2 horses & top 2 ponies to qualify.**

7) NSEA & BE Individual ODE Points Leagues 2020 (Individuals only)

The NSEA has teamed up with British Eventing to enable NSEA member horse/rider combinations to compete in B.E affiliated events at 80cm, 90cm, 1m & Novice levels in order to gain points for the NSEA/BE Points League. Riders need to apply by completing the application found on the NSEA website and returning it via email to competitions@nsea.co.uk

Points are awarded on a national basis from 1st March 2020 – 31st October 2020, following the receipt of an application form, after which the highest placed horse/rider combinations, at each level, will win training vouchers, BE vouchers and other prizes.

Points may also be accrued at NSEA ODE Qualifiers (individual placings only)

Points shall be awarded to the horse/rider combinations as follows:-

BE 80(T) level -

1st place - 6 points, 2nd- 5pts, 3rd – 4 pts, 4th – 3 pts, 5th – 2 pts, 6th- 10th place - 1 point

double clear - 1 point (also in addition to any placing)

BE 90, 1M & Novice- as per B.E scoring

100 & 100 plus and 105 classes will be combined in one section

BE Novice- will include Novice & U18 Open Novice, Pony & Junior 1*National Championships and U18 1* Regional Finals (Bishop Burton in 2020) results

BE1) Riders must be NSEA members and affiliate to BE (to take part in BE classes, either on a day ticket or annual membership).

BE2) B.E. Rules apply. **Please read these rules carefully.** Note that 'bute' and other such anti-inflammatory / pain killing substances are banned under B.E. rules. If in doubt, please check the rules / ask your vet.

BE3) NSEA competitors must be dressed correctly for all BE events, hair below collar length must be kept in a hairnet in all phases. Horses are to be plaited.

8) Eventing – The NSEA Team Eventing Series

BE & NSEA Rules

The list of qualifiers is listed on the NSEA website.

The top 6 teams & 6 individuals will qualify for the NSEA Eventing Championships each year.

Substitution- a qualified team may substitute up two 2 riders at the final but these riders must have competed in one of the 10 qualifying events or the BE equivalent at the same height.

Individual qualifications- it is the horse/rider combination qualify so no substitution is possible.

9) Pop-Up Dressage Winter Series 2020

The aim of this series is to allow individual NSEA members to compete in a national dressage league without leaving home. The winning horse/rider combination in each class, will be the one with the most points at the end of February. In **addition the top 8 horse/rider combinations will also qualify for the Pop-Up Dressage Final at Hartpury 17th April 2020.**

POP1) All riders must be NSEA members and the test videoed must be ridden by the rider named on the entry form.

POP2) Horses must be entered under their registered name.

POP3) The Team Manager must sign the entry form to verify the authenticity of the entry.

POP4) Tests may be called

POP5) BD rules for tack & clothing

POP6) Horses do not need to be plaited for these competitions but should be neatly turned out

POP7) Dressage Tests may be ridden in any 20 x 40m arena on a surface or on grass.

POP8) Tests must be videoed from the 'C' end of the arena and must be completed in one session, as you would in any competition.

Stand back approx. 3m from C, as if you were in the position of the dressage judge.

Make sure that the whole horse is in the video at all times (Tests may be videoed from a phone, ipad or camera)

POP9) You may only submit one horse/rider combination video per class and two different tests per month.

POP10) Put your video on YouTube - include your first name only and the name of your horse in your code. Make sure that your password takes you to your YouTube video- please test that it works.

POP11) Points for the league will be awarded 1st place= 8points down to 8th place = 1pt. The winner of the league will be the horse/rider combination with the most points. All tests will be judged by a dressage judge. In the event of a tie, the last test submitted will be judged by an additional judge and the placings will be taken from that.

POP12) A horse may be ridden by 2 different riders in the same test.

POP13) A rider may only compete in consecutive classes and may compete up to 3 different horses in the dressage series.

POP14) A horse/rider combination may only compete at one level below the level at which they normally compete. Classes 1 & 2 (Walk & Trot Test plus first Prelim test) are restricted to riders who have not qualified to compete at the NSEA Championships, the County Dressage Championships, or have not been placed at the Pop up Final at Prelim level or above.

Riders competing at Elementary level may only compete in Class 4.(Novice) Riders competing at Novice level may not compete in Class 2 (first Prelim test)



Glossary of Terms

Single Phase Show Jumping Competitions

The course is in two parts. Having jumped the first part of the course, all competitors will immediately continue, even if they have faults (unless they have been eliminated), to jump the second part of the course, which is against the clock. The winner is the rider with the fewest (or zero) faults, accumulated over both sections, with the fastest time over the second part of the course.

Please note that in Grass Roots, 3 refusals are allowed before elimination.

County Qualifiers and Regional Points League Competitions, 2 refusals are allowed before elimination.

National Championships Qualifiers for the National Championships held at Addington & Plate Championships, Hickstead Elite & Windsor Classes only 2 refusals are allowed before elimination. See "NSEA Additional Rules".

Eventers Challenge

Show jumping & simulated XC fences with an optimum time & no style marks. Jumping penalties have priority over time faults – so ideally, you need to go clear to win! The courses can be more twisty than JWS – with 'inside' & 'outside' lines on turns to make riders think (and not go too fast) The time should be a fair pace (but not a flat out gallop) The optimum time is between 325-375 m/m and will be set according to the shape of the arena.

Arena Eventing (Jumping with Style)

Arena Eventing ('Jumping with Style') is the culmination of four marks- SJ penalties, XC penalties, time penalties and a style penalty mark. The winner is the rider with the fewest penalties overall, so like eventing, you do not necessarily need to jump a clear round, however, there is a strong emphasis on good riding. Courses tend to be more technical than Eventers Challenge but also slightly slower in speed, to enable the rider to show the style judge how well they can ride lines. Speed 325m/m. There is no penalty for riding too fast, but style may be compromised. The very best rounds will be with no jumping penalties, the rider demonstrating good jumping technique and also the ability to go up a gear and ride forwards with accuracy & balance in the XC phase.

Competition Codes

The meaning of the competition codes, used in the rules and on the website, are as follows:-

GR – Grass Roots Competition

GRQ – Grass Roots Qualifier.

RPL – Regional Points Leagues Competition

Cchq SJ – County Show Jumping Qualifier

Cchq DR– County Dressage Qualifier.

NCHQ – National Championships Qualifier.

Ascending levels of dressage in NSEA competitions...

Introductory- Walk & trot (Grass Roots level)

Preliminary (prelim)

Novice,

Elementary (Ele),

Medium