**The following general principles apply**

⎝ The health and safety of all of British Dressage members, and those connected with our sport in any way, must remain paramount at all times.

⎝ Government guidelines should be adhered to by all participants, whether you are a competitor, organiser, judge, steward, groom, trainer, owner or other support personnel.

⎝ All training and competition activity will be COVID-19 risk assessed in advance to manage risks and provide a safe, controlled and regulated environment for all involved.

⎝ Regular handwashing, cleaning and hygiene procedures are essential for all activities.

⎝ Social distancing of two metres should be maintained where possible; if this is not possible, individuals are advised to remain at least one metre apart, plus other mitigating measures.

⎝ Good communication is required between all participants to maintain awareness, vigilance and help to control the virus.

**What will your ‘new normal’ competition journey look like?**

The following measures will help to keep yourself and those around you safe by minimising the risk of spreading the virus:

⎝ Do not attempt to travel to venues if you or anyone in your household is feeling unwell or is displaying symptoms associated with the virus.

⎝ Keep your hands and face clean – wash your hands and/or use hand sanitiser regularly.

⎝ Avoid touching your face, mouth and eyes if at all possible when in a public environment.

⎝ Take hygiene precautions, including using a tissue when sneezing, disposing it safely, and cough into the crook of your elbow, not your hand.

⎝ Keep your distance – at least two metres on the ground, three horses’ lengths while mounted.

⎝ If closer contact is unavoidable, you should still keep a minimum of one metre apart at all times, avoiding face to face contact where possible.

⎝ Wear face coverings in situations where social distancing may be compromised and limit the number of contacts you have with other people outside of your household.

⎝ Do not share tack or equipment and thoroughly clean all items, including clothes, when returning home after competition

**General competition procedures**

⎝ Under current restrictions in England, the number of people permitted on site will be limited through the day, so entry numbers may be restricted to manage this effectively.

⎝ Competitions will be run in a way that avoids unnecessary contact. This includes the removal of scoreboards and no prize giving’s. Results will be posted online, test sheets will be scanned and emailed or posted after the event.

⎝ In addition to the rider, only one other person is permitted to attend per horse. This could be an owner, trainer or groom, but the limit is one extra person per combination.

⎝ No spectators are permitted on site, other than competitors access will be limited to venue staff, officials and pre-accredited media and photographers only.

⎝ The secretary’s office at the venue will be closed to the public to minimise unnecessary contact, but assistance will still be available on site and contact numbers will be provided.

⎝ Provision will be made by the venue for a first aider with appropriate PPE and knowledge of procedures under COVID-19 provisions.

⎝ Soft face coverings that cover the mouth and nose are encouraged and may be worn while riding, although these remain optional for competitors. No face shields are permitted and nothing should attach to the riding hat.

⎝ Toilet facilities will be open and cleaned regularly. Venues are advised to regularly clean all facilities, particularly common touch points, such as door and gate handles.

⎝ Cafes and restaurant facilities are permitted to re-open from in accordance with the latest public health guidance. Competitors are encourage to consume food and drink outdoors. Competitors can take their own refreshments and supplies, as required.

⎝ You may be required to wait between tests in your car / lorry so be prepared – take a book, laptop, tablet or something similar to occupy the time.

⎝ Riders should ensure that high standards of hygiene are maintained in the stabling area at all times, washing hands or using hand sanitiser before and afterwards.

⎝ Competitors must bring their own equipment, which should be stored in their own horseboxes or trailers when not in use, not left outside the stable.

⎝ As per DEFRA rules, equine passports should accompany all horses during travel and be made available for inspection if requested.

⎝ Horses must be vaccinated in accordance with BD rules.

⎝ All safeguarding, horse welfare and anti-doping policies will be followed and monitored as normal.

⎝ Commanders are allowed for tests, providing they adhere to social distancing at all times. They must be included in the people allocation permitted for additional rider support.

Once you have finished all your tests please leave the centre as soon as you can to avoid gatherings of groups of people.

**Making an entry**

⎝ All entries and payments will be made online, via PayPal or phone the centre so payment can be taken.

⎝ A condition of your entry will be that you agree to adhere to all government regulations, relating to social distancing, public health and hygiene.

**On arrival**

⎝ Please park where directed by the venue. If there are marked bays, please use them to maintain social distancing. Vehicles should remain a three metre distance apart to avoid unnecessary contact.

⎝ Horses should remain in the vicinity of the horses box / trailer for a limited period of time only and should not be tied up outside or left unaccompanied.

**Warm up arenas**

⎝ Warm up time is limited to 25 minutes prior to going down the centre line.

⎝ No more than six riders will be permitted in the warm up at any time (based on a 20m x 60m arena) for social distancing purposes.

⎝ Riders should endeavour to maintain three horses’ lengths from other competitors while using the warm up area.

⎝ The warm up area will be supervised by an official representing the venue to ensure that social distancing is maintained at all times, so competitors should comply with their instructions.

⎝ No helpers/grooms/supporters are permitted in the warm-up.

**Judging**

⎝ Where safe social distancing in line with government regulations cannot be maintained, judges will either bring a writer with them from their household / support bubble or judge on their own.

⎝ Some venues are adapting judge boxes with screens between the judge and writer, which is permitted under social distancing guidelines.

⎝ Where judges are on their own, limited comments will be given with scores but three minutes of extra time has been given for each test so that they can give as much feedback as possible in the summary section. The amount of feedback may not be as comprehensive as normal.

⎝ If possible, there will be a marshal to guide you from the warm up area to the competition arena to maintain social distancing.

⎝ Competitors should not return to the warm up area to stretch their horse after their test.

⎝ Once you’ve completed your test and warmed down, you should return to your lorry to wash/down and untack.

⎝ Horses should not be tied outside lorries/trailers at any time.

⎝ If you have further tests, please wait in your car/lorry as there won’t be any public facilities or spectator areas open for the time being.

⎝ On returning home, it’s advisable that you clean and disinfect all tack and equipment, including clothing worn during competition.

**Results**

⎝ Score sheets will only be collected at the end of the class to minimise paper handling and will then be processed by the scorer/organiser.

⎝ Results will be posted on the venue’s website.

⎝ Test sheets can be scanned and emailed after the competition, upon request, if you don’t want your paper copy it is your responsibility to ensure a correct email address is given to the organisers. Paper test sheets rosettes and trophies will be put into a bag for collection after the competition has finished. Please take your horse home once you have finished competing if hacking or load your horse into the lorry and wait with your horse until the competition has finished and the results are announced.

⎝ This information will double as a ‘track and trace’ record to help if any competitor/visitor is subsequently tested positive for COVID-19.

⎝ Objections or complaints will be dealt with over the after an email has been sent stating in full the objection. This must be done after the completion of the competition.