

Alvechurch Riding Club Guide to Competing at Area BRC

Representing your riding club at an Area qualifier and potentially qualifying for a place at a National Championships is a fantastic opportunity and achievement. It can be however very different to competing at a local show, riding club event or unaffiliated competition.

To help you through the differences and requirements we have created this guide. Anyone who is invited to or volunteers to represent the club at Area should read and understand this guide. There is a full BRC handbook on the BRC website – the detail below is the top line relevant information. If you have any questions as to what may or may not be allowed then we recommend you check on the BRC website.

What levels?

BRC have championships in the following disciplines;

Show Jumping	Style Jumping	Dressage	Dressage to Music
Arena Eventing	Eventer Challenge	ODE	Combined Training

Levels are from 80cm – 1.1M jumping & from Prelim to PSG Dressage

There are 24 Areas across the UK with qualifiers held in each area. Teams and individuals can then qualify at qualifier events held by various clubs to secure a place at the National Championships. We have been lucky enough to send either teams or individuals to Show Jumping, Dressage, ODE and Style Jumping in the last 2 years.



<http://www.bhs.org.uk/enjoy-riding/british-riding-clubs/brc-handbook>

There are lots of rules and regulations to compete at BRC and it is the riders responsibility (or parents of juniors) to read and ensure that you and your horse are eligible and able to compete. We really don't want you to enter, pay your entry fee, arrive at a venue and then find you can't compete on the day

Club Advice

As well as all the rules and regulations about competing there is also some club advice we can offer;

- Qualifier standards are high – Alvechurch is in one of the toughest Areas in the country so qualifying places are highly sought after and very competitive. Before putting yourself forward for the event you should be confidently and regularly competing at the level at unaffiliated competitions.
- Team training maybe offered as part of any selection process required – we recommend that you take advantage of this if it is offered
- You are responsible for making sure you and your horse are both eligible and vaccinated – all the details are included in this pack for you to check
- We enter both senior and junior teams – juniors should be under 18 years of age 1st Jan of the competition year.

Other points to note

- As a club we pay a pre entry per rider to BRC for all qualifiers – this is between £10-£20 per rider per event – we pass on half of these costs as part of our entry fee and the club pays the other half.
- As a club we ask for payment for entry prior to it being submitted to the organising club. We are not a massive or rich club – we reinvest any profits from our events into grassroots riding and supporting our riders in their competitive journey from lead rein, cross pole and mini cross country onto more advanced dressage and jumping.



VACCINATIONS

Your horse must be fully vaccinated to be able to compete. You cannot assume that because your horse has had its annual booster that it is covered under the BRC Rules.

Every horse vaccination should have had a 1st, 2nd and booster jab for flu before any ongoing annual booster.

BRC have very strict rules about the dates which the 2nd and booster injections can be administered. Horses that do not comply with these rules will not be allowed to compete which can be distressing for the riders concerned. It is the most common reason for clubs losing riders entered for competition. Do not rely on your vet adhering to these dates – this is your responsibility to manage.

Below is a simple chart which you can use to check whether your horse is covered or not and to ensure that your horse has its injections within the BRC Rules. Find the date of your first injection, the 2nd

injection should be within the two dates in the next column and the booster the dates in the next two columns. This may mean you have to go back years in your passport.

We ask everyone interested in competing at Area level to carry out this check as soon as possible – you will then have chance to restart any vaccinations before you compete.

You should also not have any flu injections less than 7 days before you compete as the flu virus is live for this time. You can be sent home from Qualifier and Championships and eliminated at events for this.

FLU VACCINATION TABLE

Jab 1/ Actual 2nd Jab	2nd INJECTION DUE		BOOSTER DUE		Jab 1/ Actual 2nd Jab	2nd INJECTION DUE		BOOSTER DUE	
	21 DAYS	92 DAYS	150 DAYS	215 DAYS		21 DAYS	92 DAYS	150 DAYS	215 DAYS
01-Jan	22-Jan	03-Apr	31-May	04-Aug	01-Jul	22-Jul	01-Oct	28-Nov	01-Feb
08-Jan	29-Jan	10-Apr	07-Jun	11-Aug	08-Jul	29-Jul	08-Oct	05-Dec	08-Feb
15-Jan	05-Feb	17-Apr	14-Jun	18-Aug	15-Jul	05-Aug	15-Oct	12-Dec	15-Feb
22-Jan	12-Feb	24-Apr	21-Jun	25-Aug	22-Jul	12-Aug	22-Oct	19-Dec	22-Feb
31-Jan	21-Feb	03-May	30-Jun	03-Sep	31-Jul	21-Aug	31-Oct	28-Dec	03-Mar
01-Feb	22-Feb	04-May	01-Jul	04-Sep	01-Aug	22-Aug	01-Nov	29-Dec	04-Mar
08-Feb	01-Mar	11-May	08-Jul	11-Sep	08-Aug	29-Aug	08-Nov	05-Jan	11-Mar
15-Feb	08-Mar	18-May	15-Jul	18-Sep	15-Aug	05-Sep	15-Nov	12-Jan	18-Mar
22-Feb	15-Mar	25-May	22-Jul	25-Sep	22-Aug	12-Sep	22-Nov	19-Jan	25-Mar
28-Feb	21-Mar	31-May	28-Jul	01-Oct	31-Aug	21-Sep	01-Dec	28-Jan	03-Apr
01-Mar	22-Mar	01-Jun	29-Jul	02-Oct	01-Sep	22-Sep	02-Dec	29-Jan	04-Apr
08-Mar	29-Mar	08-Jun	05-Aug	09-Oct	08-Sep	29-Sep	09-Dec	05-Feb	11-Apr
15-Mar	05-Apr	15-Jun	12-Aug	16-Oct	15-Sep	06-Oct	16-Dec	12-Feb	18-Apr
22-Mar	12-Apr	22-Jun	19-Aug	23-Oct	22-Sep	13-Oct	23-Dec	19-Feb	25-Apr
31-Mar	21-Apr	01-Jul	28-Aug	01-Nov	30-Sep	21-Oct	31-Dec	27-Feb	03-May
01-Apr	22-Apr	02-Jul	29-Aug	02-Nov	01-Oct	22-Oct	01-Jan	28-Feb	04-May
08-Apr	29-Apr	09-Jul	05-Sep	09-Nov	08-Oct	29-Oct	08-Jan	07-Mar	11-May
15-Apr	06-May	16-Jul	12-Sep	16-Nov	15-Oct	05-Nov	15-Jan	14-Mar	18-May
22-Apr	13-May	23-Jul	19-Sep	23-Nov	22-Oct	12-Nov	22-Jan	21-Mar	25-May
30-Apr	21-May	31-Jul	27-Sep	01-Dec	31-Oct	21-Nov	31-Jan	30-Mar	03-Jun
01-May	22-May	01-Aug	28-Sep	02-Dec	01-Nov	22-Nov	01-Feb	31-Mar	04-Jun
08-May	29-May	08-Aug	05-Oct	09-Dec	08-Nov	29-Nov	08-Feb	07-Apr	11-Jun
15-May	05-Jun	15-Aug	12-Oct	16-Dec	15-Nov	06-Dec	15-Feb	14-Apr	18-Jun
22-May	12-Jun	22-Aug	19-Oct	23-Dec	22-Nov	13-Dec	22-Feb	21-Apr	25-Jun
31-May	21-Jun	31-Aug	28-Oct	01-Jan	30-Nov	21-Dec	02-Mar	29-Apr	03-Jul
01-Jun	22-Jun	01-Sep	29-Oct	02-Jan	01-Dec	22-Dec	03-Mar	30-Apr	04-Jul
08-Jun	29-Jun	08-Sep	05-Nov	09-Jan	08-Dec	29-Dec	10-Mar	07-May	11-Jul
15-Jun	06-Jul	15-Sep	12-Nov	16-Jan	15-Dec	05-Jan	17-Mar	14-May	18-Jul
22-Jun	13-Jul	22-Sep	19-Nov	23-Jan	22-Dec	12-Jan	24-Mar	21-May	25-Jul
30-Jun	21-Jul	30-Sep	27-Nov	31-Jan	31-Dec	21-Jan	02-Apr	30-May	03-Aug

PASSPORTS

Every horse that competes at Area has to be registered with its passport details and entered under its passport name – this is to check that the horse competing is the horse registered. Prior to competing the club will ask you to send images of your passport to be registered with the Area via the Area Team Manager. For this we require;

Front Page of Passport with horses name & passport number

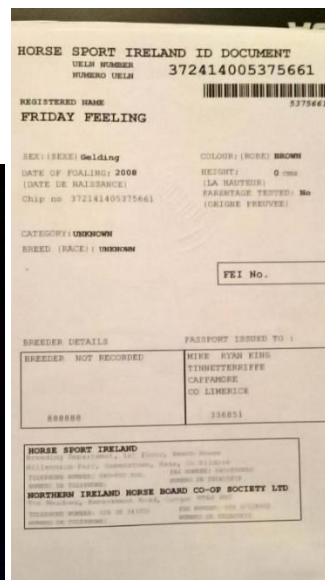
Vet diagram page with signed image & microchip number (if microchipped)

ALL flu vaccination pages going back to the start. We have attached an example passport

These can be taken on a phone and sent via Messenger, text or E Mail – make sure the images are clear enough to read.

Once this is done you will only be required to present your passport or send updated flu images for logging with the Area Rep – this can be done through the club Area Team Manager or you may be asked to present your passport before competing at an event – you will be advised of this.

You must always take your passport on the day you compete. Your horse should be scanned against its passport prior to you leaving any qualifier. If you fail to do this both yourself and any team member could be eliminated should you qualify and not had your horse scanned.



TACK & EQUIPMENT

A full set of tack and equipment guidelines can be found in Appendix 5, 6 and 7 of the BRC Handbook – this details saddle, bridle, bit, hats, jackets, boots, whips, jewellery. Below are the key areas you should be aware of.

Hats

All hats must meet the following specifications. This can be found on the label on the inside of your hat;

PAS 015 1998 or 2011 – they must be kitemarked

VG1 01:040 2014-12 – they must be kitemarked

ASTM F1163:2004a or 04a onwards – they must be SEI marked SNELL E2001 & SNELL E2016

AS/NZS 3828:2006 onwards – they must be SAI global marked

For anyone competing cross country fixed peak hats are not allowed – you must wear a skull hat with silk. Fixed peak hats or skull hats are permitted for both dressage and show jumping.

These specifications are updated annually.

Before you compete your hat must be tagged by an Area official – once your hat is tagged it covers you for the rest of the year but the tag must be updated each year and the tag colour will change

You cannot compete without a tagged hat.

Body Protectors

Body Protectors are compulsory for Cross Country.

Body Protectors must be Level 3 Purple Label which has a 2009 or after label. Hybrid Air Jackets and Air Jackets incorporated into a blouson style jacket are permitted.

These should be checked by the Area organisers prior to competing at any of the events covered above.

Medical Arm Bands

Medical arm bands are compulsory for Cross Country, Eventer Challenge and Arena Eventing – they must be completed and worn on the arm.

ELIGIBILITY

There are strict rules on the eligibility of horses and sometimes riders for the various levels of events. Top line eligibility details are below for those events we compete in regularly. Full eligibility rules can be found in Appendix 2 & 3 of the BRC Handbook;

DRESSAGE

Prelim Dressage

Unlimited BD Prelim Points 0 Novice Points or above

Novice Dressage (0 Points)

Unlimited BD Prelim Points 0 Novice Points or above

Novice Dressage (Points)

Unlimited BD Novice Points Up to 35 Elementary Points 0 Points at Medium or above

Elementary

Unlimited BD Elementary Points Up to 35 Medium Points 0 Points at Adv Medium or above

Medium

Unlimited BD Medium Points Up to 35 Total Points Advanced Medium or above

Advanced Medium

Unlimited Advanced Medium Points Up to 35 Total Points at Advanced or above

HORSE TRIALS

80cm Horse not to have competed BE100 or BRC HT100 in current year

Horses may be registered BE but not have any BE points or been placed 1-6 in a BE90 or 100 in current & previous year

90cm Horses may be registered BE but have not been placed 1-6 in a BE100 or competed at BE105cm or higher in current & previous year

100cm Horses may not have completed a BE Novice competition in the current or previous year

100cm+ No limit other than Junior riders must be 12yrs+ by 1st January in competition year

SHOW JUMPING

70cm 0 BE Points 0 BS Points Horses may not have been placed 1-6 in a BE90 or competed BE100 in current or previous year

80cm 1 BE Point 0 BS Points Horses may not have been placed 1-6 in a BE100 or competed at BE105cm or higher in current & previous year

90cm 20 BE Points 500 BS Points

1M 60 BE Points 999 BS Points

1M+ No limit BE No limit BS Points

ON THE DAY

So you've gone through all the eligibility, vaccinations and entry details – now what can you expect on the day.

When you compete at an Area Qualifier there are a few things you need to do and be aware of. The Area Team Manager will remind you of these on the run up to the day;

- Your hat must be tagged with the correct year hat tag – this can be done by the Area Reps at any event. It must meet the correct guidelines.
- If competing cross country your body protector must also be checked.
- You may be asked to present your passport prior to competing – this should be done with the Area Reps as above
- Your tack and attire must meet the BRC Guidelines – any concerns about what is allowed we recommend you check the BRC website and handbook download
- Most events will allocate you a rider number – paper numbers can be collected from the secretary on the day and prior to competing. You may wear this either on your back or on a bridle number on both sides of your bridle.
- Declare when you arrive at any warm up – these events are very well stewarded
- When you have competed take your horse and its passport to be scanned and checked against its passport

For most events your Area Team Manager will be on the ground with you ensuring everything runs smoothly and whilst all the details in this guide can be quite daunting – representing your club and Area at a National competition is one of the aims for many riders and can be an amazing experience.



Claire Al Redha

3rd National Combined Training Championships



Charlotte Jones

Competing at Bolesworth International Horse Show

NOTE – This document only features selected criteria and guidelines for BRC. We recommend you refer to the BRC Handbook for any further details.