



## *2010 Seahorse Dressage Circuit Program and Handbook*



Seahorse Dressage Competitions are recognized member competitions of Equine Canada (EC) and the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation (NSEF). Seahorse competitions are bronze competitions governed by the Rules of Equine Canada, and specifically Section E – Dressage.

Although bronze in status, the Seahorse Circuit has been provincially endorsed by the NSEF and competitors are eligible for provincial awards based on points accumulated at Seahorse competitions.

### **The Seahorse Dressage Circuit**

The Seahorse Dressage Circuit is an EC provincial circuit governed by the Rules of EC, but administered within the province of Nova Scotia through the Board of Directors of R.I.D.E.R.S. with the assistance of NSEF. The Seahorse Dressage Circuit is intended to provide recognized provincial dressage competitions that allow competitors to earn provincially recognized awards.

Seahorse Dressage competitions use EC accredited officials and are conducted in accordance with the EC Competition Administration Policy as it applies to Bronze Competitions. EC national awards and championship points are not earned at Seahorse competitions.

The NSEF has delegated the administration of the Seahorse Dressage Circuit to R.I.D.E.R.S. All changes to rules and policy are approved by R.I.D.E.R.S. and NSEF. If any organizations wish to propose a competition for inclusion in the circuit, the competition should be organized in accordance with this Handbook, be a bronze sanctioned event, and points must be submitted to the Circuit Secretary, R.I.D.E.R.S. at [membershipnews@ridersns.org](mailto:membershipnews@ridersns.org).

A Seahorse Development Fund fee of \$3.00 per competitor is levied at all competitions to cover the costs of awards, championships, the Handbook, and the administration of this Circuit.

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Seahorse Awards will be made in the EC Dressage Levels, Training Level through Fourth Level in the categories Open, Adult Amateur and Junior. EC Freestyle classes are also included in the computation of points.

**General Seahorse Rules:** EC Rules will apply to Seahorse Circuit competitions; competitors are responsible for knowledge of the Rules. The Rules are available at [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca) for free download.

**Memberships.** Owners and riders of horses competing on the Seahorse Circuit must be NSEF members. Contact the NSEF for application forms. As bronze competitions, riders must also have bronze competition licenses for the current year issued by EC.

**Eligibility.** All competitors who are eligible to enter a Seahorse Bronze Competition are eligible for Seahorse Awards. A Seahorse Award at any level and placing will be awarded only once to a horse/rider combination. For example, once a horse/rider combination has earned a Silver Award at First Level, it will not be awarded against to the same combination in any subsequent year. However, the same horse/rider combination would be eligible to earn a Gold Award at First Level in a subsequent year when scores merit. The competition season runs from the first Seahorse competition in a calendar year to the end of the last Seahorse competition in a calendar year.

Year end awards are calculated separately for Open, Adult Amateur, and Junior, even if separate classes are not held. It is the responsibility of the Competition Secretary to verify the Amateur status of competitors and to report results to the Seahorse Administrator for points tabulation.

### Seahorse Dressage Awards

- To be eligible for Seahorse Dressage Awards a competitor must be an NSEF member. Each horse/rider combination is tracked separately and must compete in the same class level in a minimum of two competitions in one season to be eligible. Individual competitions may also award competition high points.
- 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> placings are awarded in each class level and category (Open/Adult Amateur/Junior). Additional placings, up to a maximum of six, are awarded based on the number of eligible competitors at each level.
- Year End High Point Award winners are decided by totaling points accumulated throughout the year using the following point system. The Number of Riders in a class is calculated on the number of total riders and horses that actually participated in the class. Scratches, No Shows, and *Hors de Concour* entries are NOT counted.

Placing	Number of Riders in the Class and Corresponding Points					
	1 – 2	3 – 4	5 – 6	7 – 10	11 – 15	16 – 20
1	3	5	7	8	9	10
2	1	3	5	6	7	8
3	–	2	4	5	6	7
4	–	1	3	4	5	6
5	–	–	2	3	4	5
6	–	–	1	2	2	4

**Certificates of Achievement:**

Annual Individual Certificates of Achievement, as detailed below, will be awarded to the horse/rider combination that has competed in at least two (2) different Seahorse competitions during a season. The score accumulation begins at the first Seahorse competition of the season and ends at the last competition of the Seahorse competition season. Scores can be accumulated only during one season.

**Bronze Certificate:** Awarded when a rider has received 3 scores of 56% or better at the same level;

**Silver Certificate:** Awarded when a rider has received 3 scores of 60% or better at the same level;

**Gold Certificate:** Awarded when a rider has received 3 scores of 68% or better at the same level.

Competition Secretaries must forward complete results to the Seahorse Circuit Secretary immediately upon conclusion of the competition. The report must include rider, rider category, horse, competition name and date, class, test, score, placing, and number of entries in the class. The report must be sent to [membershipnews@ridersns.org](mailto:membershipnews@ridersns.org).