



## **2016 Hat Rules**

A 'Riding Hat', designed to provide protection, must be worn at all times when mounted by anyone, whether or not a Competitor, at a BD Competition, including exercising, warming up and competing.

Hats and hat covers must be predominately black, navy blue or a conservative colour that matches the rider's jacket.

Top hats or uniform caps are permitted as an exception to this rule only for Advanced to Grand Prix classes (including FEI Young Rider level) but only for the warm up directly prior to the competition (which may include riding from horse box park/stable to warm up arena) and competition test. If a hat comes off during a dressage test, it must be replaced immediately; the rider may dismount or the hat may be handed to them. The test will be restarted at the beginning of the movement during which it came off. There will be no penalty for error of course, but if the hat is not replaced the Judge is to eliminate the competitor.

Organisers may require that Under 21 riders are to wear protective hats at all levels, if this is stipulated in the schedule. Organisers may also prescribe venue-specific rules that are stricter than stated if clearly shown in their schedules.

Protective headwear must meet one of the following standards:

**British** – All PAS 015, **VG1**  
**European** – **VG1** } Provided they are BSI Kitemarked  
**American** – All SEI ASTM F1163 04a onwards and SNELL E2001  
**Australian & New Zealand** – AS/NZS 3838 **2003 onwards**.

**British** - EN1384, BSEN1384 may be worn until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 but not thereafter.

Harnesses must be correctly fastened at all times whilst mounted. Competitors are strongly recommended to check their hats regularly and to replace them if damaged, or following a fall.

If a rider starts their test without wearing the correct headgear, the Judge is to ring the bell and instruct the rider to dismount and leave the arena. At the discretion of the organiser and the Judge, the rider may restart the test once properly attired. If a rider fails to comply with the instruction, the organiser is to eliminate the competitor from all classes on that day. This will also apply if, as a result of a spot-check, a rider's hat is found not to comply with the required standard.