

## Wittering Academy Rules

Below is a summary of permitted tack for Wittering Academy competitions.

Competition		Bridle	Bit	Bit Guard	Tongue Guard	Noseband	Martingales	Breast plate	Boots & Bandages	Other
Dressage	Prelim & Novice	Snaffle Only	Snaffle - Metal, rubber, nylon / other synthetic material	No	No	Compulsory	No	Yes	No	Market Harborough, side reins etc & bitless bridles are not permitted.
	Elem & Medium	Snaffle or Double	Permitted Bridoons and Curbs	No	No	Compulsory	No	Yes	No	
Riding Test		Snaffle Only	Snaffle - Metal, rubber, nylon / other synthetic material	No	No	Compulsory	No	Yes	No	
Show Jumping		Any except Market Harborough	Any	Yes	No	Can wear more than one.	Yes	Yes & neck-straps	Yes	Side reins etc not permitted.
Equitation Jumping		Snaffle Only	Snaffle - Metal, rubber, nylon / other synthetic material	No	No	Only One Nose band at a time	Yes	Yes	Yes	Market Harborough, side reins etc & bitless bridles are not permitted.
Hunter / Horse Trials	Dressage	Snaffle Only	Snaffle - Metal, rubber, nylon / other synthetic material	No	No	Compulsory	No	Yes	No	As per Dressage.
	Show jumping	Any except Market Harborough	Any	Yes	No	Can wear more than one.	Yes	Yes & neck-straps	Yes	Side reins etc not permitted.
	XC	Snaffle or double	Any	Yes	Yes	Can wear more than one.	Yes	Yes & neck-straps	Yes	Market Harborough, side reins, running reins etc not permitted.
Style Jumping		Any except Market Harborough	Any	Yes	No	Can wear more than one.	Yes but there will be a Penalty	Yes	No	Market Harboroughs, side reins etc & bitless bridles are not permitted

### NEW RULES

Ear covers/Fly Fringes are permitted during riding in and the competition for dressage tests and riding tests. The ear cover/fly fringe should be discrete, not brightly coloured and not cover the horses eyes. Ear plugs are not permitted.

All members and non members of Wittering Academy are required to abide by the club rules when participating in any mounted event:

The judge's decision is final. No correspondence will be entered into. Arguing with the judge/steward/trainer or general abusive behaviour will result in elimination from the competition and/or the person(s) being told to leave the event.

The wearing of a hard riding hat with a correctly adjusted/fitted and fastened chin strap is compulsory when mounted. When participating in any type of cross country event or JumpCross a hard riding hat with a soft peak must be worn. All riding hats must meet the minimum legal standard (as stated in the current BRC rule book). During dressage, equitation and show jumping events scull caps must have a black or navy blue cover.

When competing in a Wittering Academy competition, members and non members must dress smartly.

Riding boots must be black or brown. Jodhpurs boots with gaiters can be worn they must be black or brown with both being the same colour. Chaps may be worn with prior agreement of the judge / event organiser as long as they are clean, smart and match the colour of the jodhpur boot.

Competitors should wear a riding shirt with a tie or stock. We advise that shirts should have long sleeves.

Senior members must wear a riding jacket when participating in a competition. Competitors may remove their jacket in hot weather with agreement of the event organiser. Junior members are permitted to wear a dark coloured v-neck smart jumper instead of a riding jacket when competing at a Wittering Academy event.

Jodhpurs worn at competitions should be a light colour, white, cream or beige.

Gloves must be worn. It is no longer necessary to wear white or light coloured gloves.

All piercings should be removed. Hair should be tidy and secured. When competing in a Hunter Trial or Horse Trial no watches are permitted to be worn by competitors.

In showing classes a competitor's groom/helper must be smartly dressed and wear appropriate enclosed toe footwear. We advise that grooms/helpers should wear a hard riding hat when in the showing ring.

Whips may be carried in all competitions except in horse trials dressage tests and at National Championships where they are not permitted.

It is recommended that body protectors should be worn when any member or non member is participating in any jumping activity. Body protectors are compulsory for any type of cross country jumping i.e. hunter trials/horse trials and when participating in any JumpCross event. All body protectors must meet the minimum required standard. A BETA level 3 is recommended.

When taking part in a cross country or JumpCross competition it is obligatory for member and non members to carry a medical card. This must be worn on the rider's arm. They must not be worn on the rider's leg.

The committee and organisers do not hold themselves responsible for any accident, loss or damage to competitors, spectators, animals, vehicles or property for any reason.

Any horse or pony competing or participating in a riding event must be 4 years or age or over in the current year and must be of sound condition.

The committee reserve the right to measure any horse or pony and to request a height certificate where any height is in dispute. In the event of such action being taken and the animal is found to be of incorrect height, the said animal will be disqualified from the class in question until a height measurement certificate to the contrary has been produced.

Horses and ponies downgraded under British Dressage rules where a fee has been paid will not be able to compete in riding club competitions within 6 months of being downgraded.

If blood is seen anywhere on the horse during riding in or during a competition, the rider will be stopped, informed and withdrawn from the competition. The blood may

not relate to abuse but it indicates a problem which requires attention and which the rider should know about.

No member or non member will be allowed to smoke whilst mounted at any event.

Excessive use of the whip and/or spurs at any point in time will result in the rider being asked to leave the event.

Spurs must be blunt, turned downward and not inwards. Only spurs made of metal may be worn, except for horse trials where metal spurs with hard plastic knobs are allowed. Dummy spurs with no shank are allowed for horse trials. Seniors are permitted to wear spurs with smooth rowels that do not exceed 1cm in dressage tests. Juniors are not allowed to use spurs in any junior competition. The wearing of spurs is not permitted in BRC Riding Test and Style Jumping competitions. In show jumping competitions, spurs with necks in excess of 3cm are not to be worn and when participating in a cross country event spurs with necks in excess of 3.5cms are not permitted.

Riders are asked to park their horseboxes/trailers in the designated lorry park and to leave the lorry park in the same condition as they find it. Please ensure that all litter, droppings are removed.

It is the competitors responsibility to enter the ring when asked to do so and by the allotted time. Failure to comply may lead to elimination from the class unless the steward has been informed of the circumstances.

Litter must not be dropped at a Wittering Academy event.

Entry fees cannot be returned after the closing date for entries except at the discretion of the event organiser.

Any objection/complaint must be put in writing and handed to the event organiser not more than one hour after the event and must be accompanied by £20. If the objection/complaint is found to be justified by the committee of Wittering Academy, the £20 will be refunded.

The committee reserve the right to alter the programme or to consolidate classes or abandon classes. Also to amend or add to these rules as they feel necessary. Any amendments will be published on [www.witteringacademy.com](http://www.witteringacademy.com).

In the event of an Academy team participating in a BRC Regional Qualifier and subsequently a National Final, team members will need to abide by the rules of this competition, as set out by British Riding Clubs. Wittering Academy recommends that all members are aware of British Riding Club rules. A copy of the rules is available from the club secretary.