



Introduction

We have asked Instructor Caroline Douglas to put together her top tips to help you during your P&P test.

Caroline strongly recommends reading these hints and watching the P&P test video because Lucy Scott, the ICD 2021/2022 Reserve Supreme Champion, drives a very accurate example test. The video shot by drone shows Lucy making brilliant use of the whole arena, preparing for each movement in good time.

ICD-UK thanks both Caroline and Lucy for helping to making our training materials for this year.

THE Top Tip - LEARN THE TEST!

To drive an accurate test, you must be thinking of the next movement and preparing your horse almost before you have finished the previous movement, so knowing the test is of the utmost importance.

If at all possible, walk your test on foot beforehand. This will enable you to pace out your circles and deviations, and plan your imaginary markers to help with the accuracy (Precision) of your test.

Driving the Test

- When the bell sounds, and before you enter the arena, take a few deep breaths, relax and *focus*.
- Enter the arena on your horse's stiff rein. *This will make for a straighter entry*
- Leave a letter and approach a letter 1 metre early. *This will mean the movement will begin and end with your horses muzzle on the letter!*
- When driving a 5m deviation (referred to as a single loop by the commentator) begin your turn around your imaginary 5m marker a metre early. *This will result in you being on the same trajectory returning to the track as when you left the track. See diagram 1.*
- When driving your 15m circle imagine the circle is inside a 15m square. The circle will only touch the sides of the square at 4 points. *See diagram 2.*
- Treat each corner as $\frac{1}{4}$ of a 10-metre circle (*Depending on how balanced your horse is, the corners will need to be less deep into the corner / shallower for the less balanced horse*)
- When driving down the side of the arena, long or short, look into the next corner of the arena. *This will help to keep you close to the side of the arena.*
- The test should flow smoothly so plan ahead, and use the half halts to prepare your horse for changes of direction and pace.
- Take time with your final salute. Establish your halt, smile at the judge and salute. The judge may look a little serious, that is to be expected, they are considering your mark – *but they will always respond to a smile with a smile!*



Diagram 1. Movements 2 & 4 - 5m Deviation

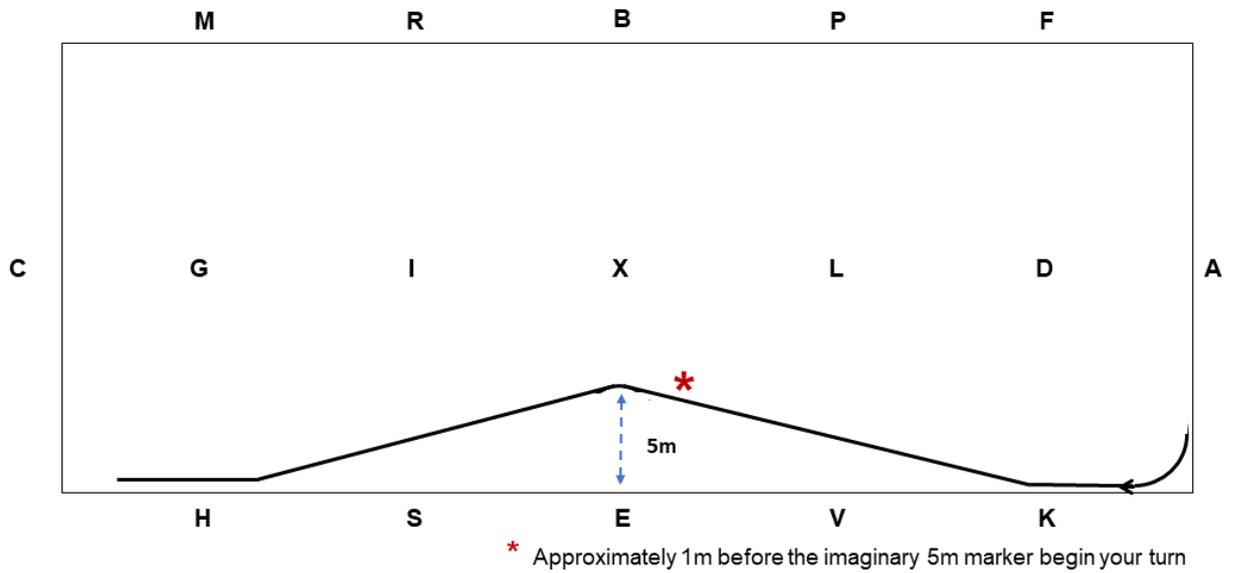


Diagram 2. Movements 5 & 8 - 15m Circle

