

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 These Rules supersede all previous issues of the Rules and apply to Indoor Carriage Driving (ICD) events. They are based on rules of British Carriagedriving (BC) and have been adapted for the indoor environment.
- 1.2 In the absence of a rule in the ICD Rulebook, the BC Rulebook, which is applicable at the start of the current ICD season (1st Oct) will apply. However, changes to the ICD Rulebook may be made mid-season if this supports safety and animal welfare objectives.
- 1.3 The welfare of the horse is paramount and all must adhere to the FEI ['Code of Conduct For The Welfare Of The Horse'](#) and the BEF ['Charter for the Horse'](#).
- 1.4 All qualifying events must adhere to the ICD Rulebook.

Championship Organisers, Regional Organisers and their appointed delegates are able to adjudicate during an event.

2 ORGANISATION

2.1 OFFICIALS

- 2.1.1 Each region has a Regional Organiser appointed by ICD. The Regional Organiser is responsible for the events in their region. All qualifying events are allocated to a region.
- 2.1.2 The Championship and Regional Organisers and their delegates must ensure that events are run according to ICD rules and policies, including ensuring the safety of officials, helpers, participants, spectators and uphold animal welfare.
- 2.1.3 The accountability for the safety of an event rests with the Championship and Regional Organisers. The Championship and Regional Organisers may delegate duties to competent persons but retain accountability.
- 2.1.4 Championship and Regional Organisers, or their delegates are authorised to stop a driver or an entire event at any time should they feel that the safety or welfare of any person or animal could be at risk.

2.2 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 2.2.1 The ICD Committee, Championship Organisers, Regional Organisers, Officials, and helpers are required to show a high standard of fairness and impartiality.
- 2.2.2 The ICD Committee, Championship Organisers, Regional Organisers, and their delegates will minimise the occurrences of conflict of interest whenever it is practical to do so.

2.3 CLASSES

- 2.3.1 All, or any, of the following classes may be held, however depending on entries, classes may be amalgamated at the discretion of the Regional and Championship Organiser.

Novice - Small Pony, Pony, Horse, Junior, Drivers with Disabilities (Dwd)

Intermediate - Small Pony, Pony, Horse

Open - Small Pony, Pony, Horse, Drivers with Disabilities (Dwd)

Pairs - Small Pony, Pony, Horse

Tandem - Pony

Team - Pony

Veteran

- 2.3.2 Regional Organiser will run the same or similar qualifying classes in their region for the whole season, wherever practical.
- 2.3.3 Where classes are amalgamated at the regional events, the driver's result will be recorded in their championship class for the points league.
- 2.3.4 Regional Organisers may choose to run a 'Club Class in which the drivers are not eligible for qualification, as such rules may be relaxed slightly.

2.4 ENTRIES

- 2.4.1 ICD Committee and the Regional Organiser reserve the right to refuse any entry with or without stating a reason.

The Regional Organisers will notify the ICD Committee of the refusal in a timely manner, ideally ahead of the event.

- 2.4.2 Any sharing of vehicles or backsteppers is accepted at the Championship and Regional Organiser's discretion, where it is practical but must be declared on the entry form.

3 DRIVERS AND BACKSTEPPERS

- 3.1 All drivers in qualifying classes must be members of Indoor Carriage Driving UK and have been assessed before competing in a qualifying class at any event.

Drivers in the club class do not have to be members of ICD but must have suitable insurance and have been assessed.

- 3.2 Drivers' membership of ICD membership provides insurance for backsteppers. However, a backstepper may choose to carry their own Personal Accident Insurance.

- 3.3 Backsteppers for Precision and Paces and Cones must be capable of assisting and be at least 13 years of age on the day of the event.

Backsteppers for Obstacles must be capable of assisting and at least 14 years old on the day of the event.

- 3.4 Junior drivers are a minimum of 6 years and under the age of 18 years on the 1st of October of that winter's season.

Junior drivers must have a competent backstepper of 18 years of age or over.

Junior drivers under the age of 13 years old must have a competent backstepper on the carriage at all times.

- 3.5 For Novice drivers, Junior drivers, and Drivers with Disabilities, a second set of reins may be attached to the bit and held by a backstepper who is a competent driver and is seated on the carriage next to the driver.

When a second rein is used, a 2nd backstepper is required for both 2 and 4-wheel vehicles.

- For 2-wheel vehicles - the same rules apply as for backsteppers in close attendance for single small ponies driven to a 2-wheeler.
- For a 4-wheel vehicle - should animal welfare prevent the backstepper being on the carriage, the backstepper will be on foot in close attendance.

The second reins may only be used with no penalty being incurred when providing aid to ensure the safety of the turnout.

- 3.6 Pony Teams must have a driver and two backsteppers. All other classes must have a driver and one backstepper, with the exception of drivers using a second set of reins.

Extra people are not allowed on the vehicle, except multiples who may wish to carry one further person, which is at the discretion of the Regional Organiser and their delegates.

- 3.7 A backstepper must be on the vehicle or stood at the horse's head at all times, including in the warm-up, with the exception of small ponies driven to a 2-wheeler or drivers using a second set of reins, where they must be in close attendance.

- 3.8 For singles driven to a 2-wheeler, the backstepper may sit beside the driver or stand on the back step.

- 3.9 A small pony driven to a 2-wheeler may compete without a backstepper on the vehicle but in close attendance.

The backsteppers on foot must pay attention to the driver and watch closely so able to assist immediately if needed. This includes in the warm-up.

During cones and obstacles, small pony drivers competing in a 2-wheeler vehicle with a backstepper in close attendance, may use an earpiece to communicate with their backstepper only.

- 3.10 A small pony team may compete with one backstepper on the vehicle, the other in close attendance.

Tandems where both the ponies are 9hh or under and driven to a 2-wheeler may compete without a backstepper on the vehicle but in close attendance.

The backsteppers must pay attention to the driver and watch closely so able to assist immediately if needed. This includes in the warm-up.

- 3.11 Backsteppers in close attendance for a small pony (single, multiple, team) or for a Novice / Drivers with Disabilities using a second set of reins, must not stand in any gate or channel.

- 3.12 The normal class progression is Novice, Intermediate, Open & Multiples.

Drivers entering an ICD event for the first time or after an absence of more than five years, and who have competed in outdoor affiliated events, will be assigned a qualifying class by ICD Committee, generally the same as their outdoor class.

- 3.13 ICD class progressions are determined by ICD competition and results as below.

NOVICE:

An adult who is starting to compete with Indoor Carriage Driving

A driver is not eligible to compete in this class if:

- They have previously come in the top 30% of competitors in the Novice class at the Championships.
- Or they have previously qualified for their Novice championship class 3 times but have not entered the class at the Championship.

- Or they have previously qualified for their Novice championship class 3 times, competed but have not been placed in the top 30% at the Championships.

INTERMEDIATE:

A driver that has:

- previously come in the top 30% of competitors in the Novice class at the Championships
- or who has previously qualified for the Novice class at the Championships 3 times but not entered the class at the Championships.
- or who has previously qualified for the Novice class at the Championships 3 times, competed, but has not been placed in the top 30% at the Championships.

A driver is not eligible to compete in this class if:

- They have previously come in the top 30% of competitors in the Intermediate class at the Championships.
- Or has previously qualified for the Intermediate class at the championships 3 times but not entered their class at the Championships.
- Or has previously qualified for the Intermediate class at the championships 3 times, competed, but has not been placed in the top 30% at the Championships.
- Or has ever competed in an open class at an ICD Championship
- Or has ever competed in classes for multiples at ICD or other BC affiliated events.

OPEN:

A driver that has:

- previously come in the top 30% of competitors in the Intermediate class at the Championships,
- or has qualified for 3 Intermediate classes at the Championships,
- or who has previously competed in Multiples classes at ICD or other BC affiliated events.

MULTIPLES:

A drivers entering multiple classes are now considered Open when entering any singles class.

Criteria for competing H/C or in multiples club classes are at the Regional Organiser's discretion.

DRIVERS WITH DISABILITIES (DwD)

A driver that is eligible for the qualifying events will be in accordance with the guidelines for the current season, published on the ICD website or available from the ICD Secretary

- 3.14 Junior drivers in the top 30% of Novice Junior at the Championships will automatically move into the Intermediate class.

However, Junior drivers in the top 30% of Novice Junior will only be upgraded if their score is lower than the highest score in the top 30% of Novice Pony.

Junior Drivers who qualify for the Indoor Championships in the Novice Junior class for 3 seasons but have not competed in their qualification class at the championships will be upgraded to Intermediate.

For Novice Junior drivers that do not wish to move to Intermediate, a request can be made to the ICD Committee to move into the Novice class instead.

- 3.15 Novice and Intermediate drivers who do not wish to move up a class in the new season can appeal to ICD Committee no later than 1st November of the new season.

- 3.16 Novice Junior drivers that have reached their 18th Birthday by 1st October will automatically move into the Novice class.
- 3.17 A driver who wishes to downgrade class for example on changing to a larger animal class, may apply to ICD Committee, with reasons, to be changed.
Equally a driver who wishes to progress class without qualifying can apply to ICD Committee.
- 3.18 Drivers may compete in up to two classes at an event and can qualify from both.

A driver may also compete twice in one class, in which case only one of their two entries in the class will count for the points league.

When entering the same class twice, the driver must nominate which of their entries is their 'championship' turnout, and the organiser must schedule this entry to run first in all the phases.

Both entries count for regional placings and does not have to be HC (hors concours).

- 3.19 Drivers who are 65 years or older on the 1st of October of that season can enter Veterans classes and qualify for the Veterans class at the Championships.
- 3.20 Drivers, backsteppers and riders must wear a suitable, secured, protective hard hat at all times they are on a carriage or riding. This includes backsteppers not on the vehicle but in close attendance to provide assistance.

A suitable body or back protector is mandatory for juniors in all phases and for everyone in the obstacles phase including Backsteppers in close attendance.

Body protectors are strongly recommended in all phases of an event for all drivers and backsteppers.
- 3.21 Marathon dress for horse, driver and backstepper.
- 3.22 In all phases a number must be clearly displayed in the front and back of number bibs worn by the backstepper (or driver where no backstepper is carried).
- 3.23 Backsteppers are not allowed to slide, lift, or move the vehicle in any way during precision and paces or cones unless it is to dislodge a trapped item from under the vehicle.
Contravening this will incur 20 penalties for their driver for each incident.
- 3.24 Drivers with disabilities may compete at any indoor event providing they are accompanied on the carriage by an experienced/competent backstepper.

Drivers with disabilities need not carry a driving aid unless they can do so safely.

4 HORSES

- 4.1 All animals must be at least 4 years old to compete.
- 4.2 Animals' passports must be available for inspection at events, and all animals must have up to date equine influenza vaccination.

- 4.3 An equine which is more than 148 cm high without shoes or more than 149 cm with shoes is classified as horse. Below this is classified as pony.
- Small pony is 11 hands and under (112cm without shoes, 113 cm with shoes). Ponies up to height limit may be required to provide a letter from a veterinarian stating size of pony with/without shoes.
- 4.4 There is no minimum or maximum height.
- 4.5 Where a height class is available, animals may only compete in their appropriate height class, i.e. small pony in small pony class, pony in pony, horse in horse.
- 4.6 Animals may wear boots and/or bandages during all phases of the competition. These must be removed for inspection if an official requires.
- 4.7 Any animal may compete up to a maximum of twice at any event, this includes competing twice in the same class with two different drivers, at the discretion of the Regional Organiser and the event timetable.

5 VEHICLES

- 5.1 Vehicles will be of a marathon or three-phase type. Pneumatic tyres are permitted but scurry vehicles are NOT permitted. Vehicles may have two or four wheels.
- 5.2 Minimum weights do not apply but the whole turnout, including driver and backsteppers, should be a suitable size and weight for the welfare of the animal(s).
- 5.3 All vehicles must be of a construction suitable for the competition.
- 5.4 The minimum width for all phases of the competition is 125cm. This is measured at ground level on the widest part of the rear wheels.
- 5.5 There is no maximum width requirement but note that cones widths will not be increased for any over-width vehicles.
- 5.6 Vehicles may be measured at any stage during the competition.
- 5.7 If any arena equipment becomes lodged under the vehicle at any time, it is the driver's responsibility to stop to allow the obstruction to be dislodged. Outside assistance may be called for without penalty. The clock will continue running.

6 HARNESS

- 6.1 Any type of harness is allowed provided it is safe and appropriate for the welfare of the horse.
- 6.2 Auxiliary reins (including any type of check reins, grass reins, bearing reins) are not permitted, except for a second set of reins for young or disabled drivers.
- 6.3 If the carriage has no brakes, breeching is compulsory. In all single classes, breeching is compulsory.
- 6.4 Bitless bridles (hackamore) are not permitted.
- 6.5 All rings, terrets and/or other types of devices which have an extreme leverage effect on reins or bits are forbidden.

COMPETITIONS

7 Phase 1 – Precision and Paces

- 7.1 The arena will be 50 x 20 metres, and the markers will be equally spaced apart, 8.33m apart on the long sides, 10m on the short sides.
- 7.2 The approved ICD Test for the current season will be used.
- 7.3 All judges' scores will be indicated to and recorded by the scorer at the end of each movement. Judges are not expected to record comments on the movements.
- 7.4 Marks out of 10 will be awarded for each numbered movement.
- 7.5 Two judges must be used. Judges to be named on the scoresheet and published results. One judge assesses and marks the paces, while the other assesses and marks the precision of the movements executed. Both scores contributing toward the total.
- 7.6 The score for a test is calculated as follows:
Add up all the marks for one judge.
Subtract the result from the score you would get for 10 points for each movement—normally 100 multiply this by 0.5.
Do the same for both precision and paces; add both scores for your P&P Score.
- 7.7 Errors of course or instances of rule breaking will be indicated, recorded, and reported to the scorer by the judge responsible for marking precision.
- 7.8 The test must be driven from memory except in club classes.

Backsteppers in the club class may prompt the driver during the Precision and Paces
- 7.9 The definitions of walk, trot and other paces are as in the FEI rules.
- 7.10 A transition must be completed as the nose of the horse arrives at the prescribed marker. Changes of pace must always be made smoothly and promptly.
- 7.11 A halt must be made so that the leading horse's nose is at the marker, unless specified otherwise in the test.
- 7.12 It is an "Error of Course" when a driver does the wrong movement or when a movement is omitted altogether.
- 7.13 If a driver makes an Error of Course, the precision Judge will stop the driver (via a bell, whistle, or the commentator). The driver must then resume the test from the beginning of the movement where the error was made. If the driver is in any doubt, he/she may approach the precision Judge for instructions.
- 7.14 Entering the arena without a driving aid, losing, or putting down driving aid 5 penalties. Drivers with disabilities need not carry a driving aid unless they can do so safely.

8 PHASE 2 – CONES

- 8.1 There will be up to ten obstacles and should be in an area that is no larger than the area used at the Championships which is 60m x 30m.
- The Championships cones course should be no more than 350m in length; at qualifying events, the course length is at the discretion of the Regional Organiser.
- 8.2 Each obstacle will be a pair of cones, oxer, or a multiple obstacle.
- 8.3 The course may include up to three multiple obstacles subject to drivers being able to maintain pace.
- 8.4 Gate markers will be numbered sequentially with a number on a white background on each left cone, from 1 up to the number of gates, with elements of multiples being lettered, e.g. 6A, B, C, D, 7, 8.
- 8.5 The type of cones should be of a safe design, and all elements on the course must have a dislodgeable element.
- 8.6 The starting line must be 5 metres or more from the first obstacle.
- 8.7 The finishing line must be 5 metres or more from the final obstacle.
- 8.8 There is no set minimum or maximum distance between obstacles, but the design should enable drivers to maintain an even pace throughout the majority of the course.
- 8.9 Drivers may take whatever line they wish but must take each obstacle in sequence. The entire turnout must pass between the cones. Driving any obstacle out of sequence results in elimination
- 8.10 Drivers may cross their own line between obstacles without penalty, including going through the start / finish.
- 8.11 Knocking down a previously driven obstacle or obstacle yet to be driven will incur 5 penalties. The obstacle will not be rebuilt during the driver's round.
- 8.12 The time allowed will be calculated from a speed of 220 metres per minute.
- 8.13 Drivers may be told the time allowed for the course but are reminded that stopwatches and/or other timing aids are strictly forbidden. Outside assistance could lead to disqualification. Backsteppers may speak or indicate to assist the driver but may not use timing devices.
- 8.14 A driver will incur one penalty point for each commenced second above or below the time allowed and 5 penalties for dislodging one or both balls of a pair of cones or one to four balls of an oxer (of 4 cones).
- 8.15 Entering the arena without a driving aid or losing or putting down driving aid 5 penalties.
- 8.16 There are no added penalties for refusals or disobedience.
- 8.17 The standard width is 145cm between a pair of cones. This can be larger or smaller at the course designer and Regional Organiser's discretion.

9 PHASE 3 – OBSTACLES

9.1 Each driver will drive four marathon type obstacles.

9.2 A driving aid need not be carried.

9.3 Two obstacles will be erected in the arena at any one time and will have a maximum of five flagged gates A-E.

At the Championships, the flagged gates are A-F.

From 1st January onwards, at the Regional Organiser's discretion, the number of flagged gates may be increased in preparation for the Championships.

9.4 Regional events may use obstacles 1 & 2 twice with the whole class driving the first two obstacles and then re-driving them as obstacles 3 & 4.

Alternatively, obstacles 1 & 2 can be reflagged or totally replaced to form obstacles 3 & 4 which are then driven by each driver.

9.5 Obstacles may have one knockdown per element. For attached elements only one knockdown counts per incident.

9.6 Start and finish gates will be positioned between the obstacles and will be common to both obstacles.

9.7 The driver must go through the start, then through the lettered gates in sequence and in the correct direction, then through the finish. Once a lettered gate has been driven in the correct sequence it is 'free' and may be driven again in either direction.

If a driver drives a gate out of sequence or in the wrong direction they incur 20 points for an Error of Course. No gates then count until they drive the correct next gate.

If the error is not corrected, the driver is eliminated.

9.8 A gate is driven when the entire turnout crosses the line of the gate.

9.9 One penalty point will be awarded per second spent in each obstacle, recorded and scored to two decimal places (hundredths of seconds). Each obstacle is timed individually.

9.10 Timing is made from the when the nose of the first horse crosses the start line until the nose of the first horse crosses the finish line.

9.11 Each knockdown incurs 5 penalties whenever knocked down, including for cones in a cones course during the obstacles phase, and for obstacles during the cones phase.

9.12 The time limit for drivers in each obstacle at the Championships is 3 minutes. Enforcement of the time limit at the qualifying events is at the discretion of the Regional Organiser.

9.13 When a backstepper dismounts the carriage in an obstacle (voluntarily or non-voluntarily), the driver will incur 5 penalties.

The clock will not stop or be reset.

The driver must immediately stop to allow the safe remounting of the vehicle by the backstepper.

Once remounted the driver must restart the course by re-driving the last successfully driven gate (e.g. if dismount happens after gate C, restart the course by re-driving gate C).

The backstepper(s) must be on the vehicle when crossing the finish line.

The full time will be recorded.

10 QUALIFICATION

- 10.1 Each driver, in each qualifying event, in each region will gain points that reflect the position in which the driver finishes within their championships qualifying class each time they complete.

One point will be awarded for each event completed if not placed. We also record the driver's best 'percent' score of the season in each class in each region.

One driver, with the highest points disregarding any former champions eligible to requalify, will be eligible to qualify from each class in each region provided they have also achieved a best percent score of at least 75% in that class and region and competed in at least 50% plus one of the events, (e.g. minimum 4 events in a region which organises 5 or 6 events).

In any region that has an average of 10 entries or more within one class over the duration of the season the driver with the second highest points from that class will also be eligible to qualify, provided they have also achieved a best percent score of at least 75% in that class and region.

For any region with less than 10 drivers per event on average, and for classes with less than 4 drivers on average, ICD will judge which drivers to invite.

- 10.2 Drivers with Disabilities Qualification

To qualify for a Drivers with Disabilities class at the Championship's drivers:

- Must attend a minimum of 3 events, at any region, over the entire season.
- May not enter any other class at the Championships.

Progression

- Drivers with Disabilities are not automatically moved to the next class. However, a request can be made to the ICD Committee to move into the next class.

- 10.3 Drivers may not transfer points between regions.

- 10.4 Regional Organisers must report all drivers' final scores and placings as soon as possible after the event to ICD.

- 10.5 The scores will be calculated as follows:

The points gained from the placings in the qualifying events in any one region, up to a maximum of 5 scores. i.e. in a region with 6 or more qualifying events, the total of a driver's best 5 scores will count.

For regions with less than six qualifying events all event points will count. Points are awarded as: 10 for first, 8 for second, 6 for third, then 5,4,3,2

Tie breaker in an equal score in a qualifying event will be the obstacles overall score, if still on equal score, then the P&P will be the tie breaker.

Points will be awarded accordingly. If this results in a tie, the remaining event score if any, will be used as a tiebreaker.

- 10.6 The British Indoor Reserve Supreme Champion and all the class Champions from the previous season are invited to enter the current season Championships. This is providing they compete at 50% of the events in their one nominated region and class.
- 10.7 Past British Supreme Champions are invited to enter the British Indoor Carriage Driving Championships. This is provided they compete at 50% of the events in their one nominated region and class in the current season.

However, they may compete in any class and are not limited to their Supreme Championship winning class.

- 10.8 ICD, as the organisers of the British Indoor Carriage Driving Championships, reserves the right to issue invitations to qualified drivers and further drivers as they see fit.
- 10.9 If a driver qualifies for the same class in more than one region: if one of these regions is the 'preferred' region which the driver has nominated before their first event, they will qualify from that region, otherwise their earliest qualification counts.

Their points scores are disregarded in other regions for qualifications for that class (e.g. the second driver by points may qualify in the second region).

11 HEALTH & SAFETY

- 11.1 Health and Safety standards will be in force always. The organisers of Indoor Carriage Driving events have taken reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone present. For these measures to be effective everyone must take all reasonable precautions to avoid and prevent accidents occurring and must obey the instructions of the organisers and all officials and stewards.

All persons on any show ground or course will be held responsible to complying with these standards at all times and will not put themselves or any other person at risk in any way whatsoever. Any accident shall be reported to the Regional Organiser and their delegates at the time of the occurrence.

A report shall be recorded, and the relevant forms completed (a copy shall be retained by ICD) and returned to the Insurers (via British Carriagedriving.)

- 11.2 Appropriate Medical cover must be in attendance at all ICD Events, in accordance with the current BC guidelines. The nominated person must hold a current certificate; copies of certificates must be held by the Regional Organisers and may be requested by ICD Committee.
- 11.3 A current risk assessment for each regional event must be completed and available to everyone on request.

12 DISCLAIMER

- 12.1 Neither the organisers nor the sponsors nor the Club(s) nor the landowner nor any agent, employee or representative of these bodies accepts any liability for any loss, damage, injury, illness to horses, owners, drivers, backsteppers, spectators nor any person whatsoever, whether caused by their negligence, breach of contract, or in any other way whatsoever, save for the death or personal injury caused by the Club's negligence.

13 CODE OF CONDUCT

- 13.1 ICD subscribes to the BC rules of conduct and discipline which can be provided by the ICD Secretary or on the BC website - www.britishcarriagedriving.co.uk

14 SUMMARIES OF MARKS & PENALTIES

Precision and Paces Marking.

Excellent	10	Fairly good	7	Insufficient	4	Very bad	1
Very good	9	Satisfactory	6	Fairly bad	3	Not executed	0
Good	8	Sufficient	5	Bad	2		

14.1 TABLE OF PENALTIES

GENERAL

Vehicle overturning	Elimination
Driver dismounting	20 penalties
Backstepper(s) dismounting vehicle in any phase (voluntarily or involuntarily)	5 penalties per incident
Backsteppers standing / blocking in gate or channel	Elimination
Lame horse	Disqualification
Physical outside assistance	Elimination - except to avoid an accident

PRECISION AND PACES

Entering the arena without a driving aid or losing or putting down driving aid	5 penalties
Part of turnout leaving the arena during a movement	Marked down for inaccuracy
Error of Course: on each occasion	5 penalties

CONES

Error of course	Elimination
One or two balls of cones pair down, one to four in an oxer	5 penalties
Per second over the time allowed or under the minimum time	1 penalty to two decimal places

OBSTACLES

Error of course	Elimination
Corrected error of course	20 penalties
Per knockdown	5 penalties
Per second in the obstacle	1 penalty to two decimal places
Time in obstacle exceeding 3 mins	Elimination
Backstepper not remounting carriage prior to the finish line	10 penalties per incident