

Additional Rules for British Young Drivers at all BHDTA Events and Clinics

All drivers and grooms are required to wear BHS approved headgear whilst on the event field during exercising and on the marathon. Under 14s – crash hats are compulsory at all times, for all phases. Gloves are compulsory.

It is recommended that body protectors are worn by all competitors. This will be **COMPULSORY** for competitors aged 5 – 10 years for the marathon phase.

Safety assessments: (*safety guidelines available separately*)

- Every competitor must have been assessed for competence and safety before being allowed to participate in any driving function.
- For drivers aged 5 – 10 yrs, the groom must be over 21 years and have driving experience. Evidence of this will be required.
- It is a requirement that Juniors in the 5 – 9 age group have a second pair of reins to the groom. These must remain slack at all times unless there is obvious lack of control which would jeopardise the safety of the turnout.
- 5 – 9 age group must drive in two wheel vehicles with the groom sitting side by side with the driver.
- Should the vehicle be too big for the driver then cushions must be fitted on seat and increased step in the foot well.
- Penalty points will be awarded at the discretion of the TD for obvious assistance from the groom in a normal and safe situation.
- For drivers 11 – 14 yrs, the groom must be over 18 yrs and competent with handling horses/ponies. It is preferred that the groom is familiar with the turnout and all safety aspects. It is permissible for the groom, without penalty, to assist the driver to regain control should the turnout be in danger of exceeding a safe pace.
- Drivers in the 15 – 21 age group – to follow BHDTA groom requirements

Drivers must at all times respect their horse/pony and retire if, at any time, the animal is distressed. It is the responsibility of the groom to monitor the welfare of both driver and equine

Competitors are reminded that helpers appreciate your thanks and courteous attitude.

Insurance

Drivers under ten are not covered by BHDTA/IHDT insurance and must be covered by independent personal liability insurance.

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