

Para Equestrian



Para equestrian is an equestrian sport which includes two competitive events: One is para-equestrian dressage, which is conducted under the same basic rules as conventional dressage, is described as "the highest expression of horse training" where "horse and rider are expected to perform from memory a series of predetermined movements but with riders divided into different competition grades based on their functional abilities.^[1] The other is para-equestrian driving, which operates under the same basic rules as combined driving, (also known as horse driving trials) is an equestrian sport involving carriage driving. In this discipline, the driver sits on a vehicle drawn by a single horse, a pair or a team of four. The places competitors in various grades based on their functional abilities.

Para equestrian sport is governed by the International Federation for Equestrian Sports (FEI),



Eligibility:

Impaired Muscle Power	Athetosis	Hypertonia	Ataxia
Short Stature	Leg Length Difference		Limb Deficiency
Impaired Passive Range of Movement		Vision Impairment	

Classification:

Para-Dressage

Grade 1	At this level the rider will ride a walk only test
Grade 2	The rider will ride walk with some trot work excluding medium trot
Grade 3	At this level the rider will ride a novice level test excluding canter
Grade 4	Athletes with a physical disability or vision impairment. Riders with moderate unilateral impairment, moderate impairment in four limbs or severe arm impairment. In day to day life, riders are usually ambulant but some may use a wheelchair for longer distances or due to lack of stamina. Riders with a vision impairment who compete in this class have total loss of sight in both eyes (B1
Grade 5	At this level the rider will ride an elementary/medium level test. Athletes with a physical disability or vision impairment. Riders have a physical impairment in one or two limbs (for example limb loss or limb deficiency), or some degree of visual impairment (B2).

Para-Driving

Grade I	People who use a wheelchair on a daily basis, and have limited trunk functionality and impairments in their upper limbs. It also includes people who have the ability to walk but have impairments in all of their limbs. The third class of riders it includes is people with severe arm impairments
Grade II	Riders who are higher functioning than Grade I riders but who would otherwise be at disadvantage when competing against able-bodied competitors. ^[9]