

Volunteer

PROGRAMME FOR 2025



Everything you need to know

Wellington Riding is an exceptional international competition venue with wonderful volunteering opportunities.

WELLINGTON RIDING

A leading UK equestrian training centre and international competition venue

Wellington Riding is one of the UK's biggest and best-known equestrian centres.

Set in 300 acres of the Duke of Wellington's beautiful Hampshire estate, we are a British Horse Society approved Riding School, Livery Yard and 'Where to Train' Centre to BHSL.

Wellington Riding holds a calendar full of shows and events from unaffiliated to international level championships across all disciplines throughout the year.

EVENTS



2024 Highlights

BD Winter Regionals

Wellington International Showjumping CSI 1* & 2*

Wellington International Festival of Dressage CDI 1* & 3*

BD Premier League

Wellington International Horse Trials & Country Fair

Wellington Autumn International Dressage (including CPEDI 1* & 3* and CDI 1* & 3*)

Various qualifiers including BD, BS, BE & Sunshine Tour
Estate Fun Ride in the grounds of Stratfield Saye House



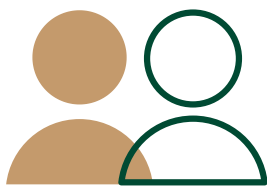
Behind the scenes...

Roles and Responsibilities

There are a number of roles that are essential to the smooth running of our shows and events that are fulfilled by volunteers.

These include; score sheet runners, show jumping arena party, music operators, car parking attendants, scorers, and office assistants. We also cannot run without our dressage writers, stewards and commentators, although these roles require training which we can happily provide you with. We could not run our shows without the help of our volunteers and helpers and their support is greatly appreciated.

Most new volunteers start with score-sheet running for dressage shows and arena party (pole replacement) for showjumping. Both roles involve skipping out the competition arenas in between to keep the surfaces in prime condition. We are very keen on helping our volunteers grow their knowledge and experience within the events industry, so we will eventually get you doing some varied roles and will be keen to tailor your volunteering experience to the jobs you most like doing!



Age Restrictions

We do not accept volunteers under the age of 14 and those under the age of 18 are supervised by a member of staff, all of whom have been through safeguarding and CRB checks. We do not use volunteers under the age of 18 as writers.





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Exciting benefits with volunteering

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing excellent customer service at all our shows and events, we will provide training and opportunities to take part in schemes for volunteers run by the governing bodies for equestrian sports.

These include support with training to become BD or BS stewards, BE fence judges and BD judges or writers. Once training is complete we will support you during your probationary period providing opportunities for shadowing an experienced official at our shows to allow you to complete the necessary hours to become a listed official in your own right.

In addition to the specific “on-the-job training”, there are further benefits on offer as a Wellington volunteer. First Aid courses will also be offered, with training for these provided by our team of show medics.

For the younger volunteers, we can support with both the DofE (Duke of Edinburgh) and YELA (Young Equestrian Leader) Awards. You can also receive a written reference from the Events Team for your portfolio. Whilst volunteering at a show, refreshments will be provided free of charge, for those volunteering for 4 hours or more this will include a meal (usually lunch).

Be part of our volunteer community and enjoy our volunteer social evenings held twice a year – one in the summer and another for Christmas festivities as a thank you for all your hard work.

WHY



Top Tips!

Handy things to know

We want you to enjoy your time volunteering with us, so we wanted to share some top-tips to take any stress out of your day and to make sure you are warm and comfortable. Don't forget you can contact us anytime, should you have any further questions.



Dress for the weather. Our events run rain or shine, so please check the weather in the morning to ensure you dress appropriately. Remember, there is a small chance of sunshine in England so sun cream might be needed. Clothes may become sandy and dirty from the surface, so don't wear your Sunday best. Shorts can be worn during sunny days, but please ensure that these are just above the knee. Shoulders must always be covered.



Keep those feet safe with closed toe shoes. If you are arena party or a score sheet runner you will be on your feet most of the day so comfy shoes are key! If you are putting up jumps you may also want to bring a pair of gloves. Waterproof shoes are essential in wet weather.



Traffic can be quite bad around Wellington so leave plenty of time to get here. Wellington Riding, Heckfield, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 0LJ +44 0118 922 5371



Wellington has its own café with hearty cooked meals, snacks, drinks and a bar, perfect for a post shift glass of bubbly. We have disabled facilities and can tailor roles to wheelchair users or those with mobility issues. Modern toilets are located onsite and there is access to a shower.



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Volunteer roles explained

We thought it would be useful for anyone interested in volunteering with us to give the lowdown on the different roles you might be expected to do.

ROLES

STEWARD

Responsible for ensuring the show is run to time, competitors are behaving, overseeing the warm up arenas and rings, being the first point of contact for riders in warm up. Keeping track of any changes and radioing any queries to the show secretary. Training required for affiliated events.

ARENA PARTY

Rebuilding any jumps that are knocked down, poo picking etc. Keeping the arenas looking tip-top. You might want to bring a pair of gloves!



SCORER

This involves collating a lot of results and lots of counting! Calculators at the ready...



RUNNER

Collecting score sheets from the arenas and bringing them to the scorers to process. Poo picking. You will definitely hit your steps target.



DRESSAGE WRITER

Being the judge's scribe, you will need to write fast and clearly and have good dressage knowledge. Training required.



MUSIC CONTROLLER

A role for Dressage to Music shows only. Front row seats to the dressage – you just need to hit play on a laptop when each rider signals to you. The laptop will have all the music files loaded and ready to go.

Volunteer roles explained

ROLES

Based at our Highfield Farm site, kept all year round just for this event. Help out over the August Bank Holiday with our friendly team... you might even get to meet your riding heroes. All volunteers will receive a thank you gift and a complimentary family ticket.

FENCE JUDGE

You are usually paired up for this role and some experience in fence judging is ideal, however, we can normally pair you with someone more experienced if you are keen to give it a go! It involves taking a time for each competitor at the fence, awarding penalties for any rule infringements and reporting these to cross country control, as well as recording them on score sheets. Fence judges are also responsible for safety around their fence. The BE Technical Adviser and Steward will give you a thorough briefing in the morning, including explaining the stopping procedure and things to watch out for.



CROSSING STEWARD

This involves allowing the public/site vehicles to cross the cross country route, or horse walks to warm up and competition arenas. It involves moving a rope to allow horses to pass and using a whistle.



ENTRANCE GATE

Involves scanning tickets on entry (training and instructions for scanners will be provided onsite. Also may be required to sell tickets on the gate.



INFORMATION TENT

Assisting the shows team with general queries from the public on directions, what is happening where and when, or answering questions from competitors and handing out test sheets etc.



ADDITIONAL ROLES

During Wellington International Horse Trials & Country Fair, we also need volunteers to help us with arena party, show jumping and dressage stewards, dressage writers and score sheet runners.

Fancy it?

How to volunteer

A calendar of upcoming events will be sent out to our volunteer list, or on request.

You let us know what dates you would like to do; we will double check your availability nearer the time and allocate roles and times. Some people like to spend all day with us, others just a few hours – we are flexible to your commitments and preferences.

If you have any questions, queries, or would like to put your name down to volunteer at Wellington please send us an email: ridingshows@wellington.co.uk

HOW





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wellingtonriding.co.uk