



Dressage

South Island

Sunday 9th August 2026

Dunstan Horsefeeds National Equestrian Centre

Mcleans Island, Christchurch

Entries close: Sunday 2nd August

Enter online at www.evoevents.co.nz

Any queries to: Seija at ashburtondressage@gmail.com

Welcome to the South Island Demo & Dabble 2026 – proudly brought to you by Equestrian Sports New Zealand

This year we are taking things up a notch with **Demo, Dabble & Do-it** – a fun, non-competitive day created especially for recreational riders who want to enjoy low-pressure learning.

Demo, Dabble & Do-it (DDD) Dressage is designed to introduce riders to the sport of dressage in a fun, relaxed and supportive environment. Whether you're completely new to dressage, looking to improve your confidence between the white boards, or wanting to pick up some tips ahead of the competition season, DDD provides a fantastic opportunity to learn from experienced ambassadors and coaches in a friendly, no-pressure setting.

The day combines demonstrations, practical learning opportunities and plenty of time for questions and discussion. Riders can attend with or without a horse, making it accessible for everyone. Participants can watch demonstrations, learn about tests, training and competition preparation, and gain valuable insights from experienced dressage riders. Those attending with a horse will also have opportunities to put their learning into practice and receive individual guidance throughout the day.

With Triple D Dressage taking place just three weeks before the South Island Secondary Schools Championships, it's also a great chance for school riders to sharpen their skills and build confidence ahead of the event. Equally, the day is open to riders of all ages and stages, from first-timers through to experienced competitors wanting to refine their partnership and enjoy a day immersed in all things dressage.

Thanks to our amazing sponsors (to be revealed on the Facebook Event) there are **style prizes and spot prizes** to be won – awarded by our organisers and ambassadors for outstanding **horsemanship and sportsmanship**. Come along, get involved, and let's make 2026 one to remember!



Theme of the day – SET YOURSELF UP FOR SUCCESS

Morning	Off-horse dressage education – coffee and live chat. Ambassadors present top tips for enjoying dressage. Opportunity for questions.
Ambassadors; Seija Parkkali-Glew Sally Goldsmith	DEMO Dressage demonstration with a demo rider. Ambassadors present and explain/educate participants around arena craft for Introductory to Novice dressage.
Afternoon	DABBLE Warm-up coaching session with ambassador, putting the learning into practice.
	DO-IT Try a test of choice or a series of movements for feedback. Bring your phones and have your test videoed with commentary.
COSTS	\$50 entry fee – Demo, Dabble and Do-it as a rider \$25 entry fee – for non-riding spectators for the day \$23 Ground fee *** (no GF for NEC members) \$16.30 ESNZ casual day membership if no current ESNZ Rider membership (or see next page about joining as an Introductory member) *** Ground fee also allows access to the hacking track and training ground area, riders may also use these facilities on the day Parking will be out in Siberia by the Canterbury Dressage Arena which we will be using.

Want to find out more about our ambassadors? Pop over to the Demo, Dabble & Do-it Facebook Event on the ESNZ Facebook page for lots of information, updates and fun.

Refunds / scratchings: Entry fee refunded if notified before 8am Monday week before the event date with doctor/vet certificate. All other refunds at OC discretion.

Starting out?

Our introductory membership gives you annual multi-disciplinary access for only \$54.30 incl GST.

What you get



One riding membership with access to all 5 disciplines at introductory levels

*competition fees still apply

www.nzequestrian.org.nz

Starting out – if you are thinking of riding at 3 or more **introductory level** events in one year? You might like to consider an Introductory Membership (as described above) for \$55.75 per annum.

Find out more on our website under – members – get involved, or use the link below:

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/esnz/membershipregistration/membershipregistration-information/>

Link to dressage tests:

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/disciplines/dressage/resources/dressage-tests/>

Some information about the Dressage for first timers...more can be found on the ESNZ website

What is Dressage?

Think of Dressage as horse dancing – it's all about harmony, precision, and correct training so that any well-prepared horse can shine. Riders follow a set "test" at each level, performing specific movements that judges score for accuracy, suppleness and partnership.

In New Zealand, there are ten progressive levels, from beginner to advanced, with special classes like Musical Freestyles (dressage to music), young horse tests (ages 4 -7) and even Prix Caprilli (dressage with small jumps). At the top are the FEI International tests, used all over the world.

Events take place in standard-size arenas (40 x 20m or 60 x 20m), with clear rules on dress, tack, and equipment – all overseen by ESNZ Dressage.