

Calculators, Cruises and Score Sheets

Emma Bradley is a seasoned BRC volunteer who helps at all of our Championships. Here is what she had to say about being a scorer:

Explain what your role is on event day?

Depending on the event will depend on exactly what I am doing as part of the scoring team, but essentially it is to add up dressage scores and calculate the percentage and double check another scorers adding up. Above all keep calm and have a laugh with the team in the scoring hub.



What equipment do you need for your role?

Pen, pencil, rubber, calculator and a sense of humour!



What is it like volunteering for the BRC?

I love volunteering and helping others to compete in events. I don't ride and therefore am pleased I can help. I knew nothing about horses when I offered to help set up Bicester Riding Club in 2010, but offered my administrative skills and then in 2011, joined the BRC Volunteers' Club and the same year was proud to be their first Volunteer of the Year! I feel valued when at events, part of a team and proud to be involved supporting others.

What is the hardest part of your job? Any tips?

Getting your head around the numbers at the start of the season or when we have not had competitions for a while. Also dealing with the crowds at the score boards- a little space would be appreciated!



Do you need previous competition experience to join a scoring team?

No, because we support each other and teach new people how to work in the scoring team. My Mum aged 76 has never been involved or around horses, came and volunteered at Lincoln two years ago when they were short of scorers and is now a regular volunteer at Championships.

Come along and help!

What is your favourite BRC championship?

My favourite championship, that's a hard one...I love Dressage to Music as it is a relatively small event for scoring purposes and we have some fun within the team, but I also love Lincoln because there are so many different tests to calculate, it keeps you on your toes. Also we have an amazing view and fantastic scoring room!



What do you do when you are not volunteering for BRC?

I am a trained nurse, working as an Independent Nurse Consultant. In my spare time, I am a Trustee for a mental Health Charity, Secretary of my local Riding Club, and joint organiser of a large local charity horse show, volunteer as campsite manager at Blenheim Horse Trials, work at CountryFile Live (this year Blenheim and Castle Howard) and when I have time...sleep!

If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go and why?

I am afraid I have a passion for New Zealand, but if I could go anywhere else in the world I would love to go on a cruise up the Inside Passage on the Pacific North West Coast of North America. I find that cruising is an incredibly relaxing experience where I have time for me and know the scenery would be just spectacular.



All in a day's work

Here is what Emma and the rest of the scoring team get up to at the Dressage to Music Championships.

427 Dressage sheets scored

90,684 steps walked by 3 scorers

13,120 scores added up and double checked

2464 stairs climbed

Individually scored 2,624 score sheets

Average length of time from the last competitor leaving the arena to publication of the results- 7 minutes 8 seconds

Scoring queries received- Zero!

