

Code of Conduct for Members

The Pony Club is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members and the highest ideals of sportsmanship, citizenship and loyalty, to create strength of character and self-discipline. The Pony Club believes that it is important that members, parents / guardians, officials, volunteers and coaches should, at all times, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others. Therefore, members are always encouraged to be open and to share any concerns or complaints they may have about any aspect of the club and its activities with the Branch / Centre Safeguarding Officer. Make it your business to know who the safeguarding officer is as it is not always the District Commissioner, Secretary or Rally organiser as any concerns should be raised in the strictest confidence.

Branches and Centres should offer a positive experience for members where they can learn new things in a safe, enjoyable and positive environment.

Members have the right to:

- Be safe and happy in their chosen activity.
- Be listened to, respected and treated fairly.
- Privacy.
- Be protected from harm.
- Participate on an equal basis, appropriate to their ability.
- Experience competition and the desire to win without undue pressure.
- Be believed and supported.
- Ask for help.
- Have their concerns taken seriously and acted on as may be appropriate.

As a Member of The Pony Club, you are expected to abide by the following Code of Conduct:

- Keep yourself safe.
- Report any concerns about safeguarding poor practice / conduct you may have to the appropriate person at your Branch / Centre.
- Be friendly, supportive and show respect to coaches, officials and volunteers.
- Be friendly, supportive and show respect to other members.
- Take care of, and show respect to, your horses / ponies.
- Play fairly and be trustworthy.
- Behave in accordance with this code of conduct and listen to all instructions given by coaches, officials and volunteers.
- Abide by the rules of The Pony Club and its Sports, and accept the decisions made by coaches, officials and volunteers.
- Politely query a decision that you do not understand and listen to the explanation.

- Do not cheat, be rude, violent or aggressive.
- Refrain from using foul or abusive language.
- Refrain from bullying, becoming involved in discrimination of any kind, or inappropriate peer pressure, including pushing others into something they do not want to do. This includes face to face interactions or through the use of social media or technology.
- Ensure you comply with the current Health and Safety Alcohol and Drugs policy.
- Do not engage in sexual activity whilst in attendance at any Pony Club event.
- Do not criticise officials, coaches, volunteers, staff, members or parents / guardians on social networking platforms or using text messages / emails.
- If you are under 18, do not leave an organised event unless accompanied by your parent / guardian or by a Branch / Centre official.
- Do not post pictures or other images of a child under 18 on any social network platform without the permission of the child involved and their parent / guardian.
- Be aware that it is not acceptable to photograph or video an injured person under any circumstances.

Any minor misdemeanours and general misbehaviour will be addressed by the coach, official or volunteer and reported to the designated person as appropriate. More serious or persistent misbehaviour may result in disciplinary action in accordance with the procedures laid down in The Pony Club Rules

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