



AREA 5 OF THE PONY CLUB WINTER LEAGUE SHOW JUMPING OBJECTIVE AND RULES 2025-26

Approved - 15th September 2026

1. Objective of the Competition

1.1 The objective is to provide an inter-branch team and individual show jumping competition (Winter League Show Jumping) for all Branches in Area 5, from September to March. Referred to below as the "Season", in six jumping height classes, involving as many Area 5 members as possible. Providing a framework to encourage a competitive spirit, continuous and consistent improvement in riding ability.

1.2 The Season will be deemed to have started with the commencement of the first competition.

1.3 An Area 5 Winter League Show Jumping Secretary will be appointed by the Area 5 Winter League Committee prior to the commencement of the Season. The secretary shall be responsible for compiling and updating the team and individual league table after each competition and publishing the results.

2. The Competition.

2.1 The Competition will comprise of six classes: which will run in ascending order as set out below (An exception may be made to those competitions which may be run over 2 arenas. Subject to adherence to principle of ascending order.)

Class 1 – 50cm individuals only- age restriction 9 years and under

Class 2 - 60cm - age restriction 9 years and under

Class 3 - PC70 - age restriction 13 years and under

Class 4 – PC80 - no age restriction

Class 5 - PC90 - no age restriction

Class 6 – PC100- no age restriction

(The heights given are the heights in Section A, Section B may increase by a maximum of 10cm).

2.2 Where an age restriction applies to any class, the age of a rider will be taken as at the 1st January 2025 -the year in which the season commences.

2.3 The Organising Branch/Branches or Centre may offer additional Classes, to those listed above (i.e an open class with no age restrictions) which will not form part of the Winter League competition' The Schedule must detail what rules these additional classes are to be run under.

2.4 The WLSJ will be run under the Pony Club Show Jumping Rules as at the beginning of the Season, over a single-phase course divided into two sections as described in Appendices, British Showjumping - table of definitions Pg52 [Pony Club Rulebook 2025](#)

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2.5 The course is divided into two sections jumped, as one round. The first Section A will either be untimed or have a time allowed. The second Section B will be timed. Faults will be cumulative over the whole course and riders will jump the whole course, unless they are eliminated. Those placed equal on faults will be decided by the time in the second Section B. The course may comprise up to 13 obstacles (combinations = 1 obstacle) in total, with up to 7 in Section A untimed (6 minimum) and up to 6 in Section B timed (5 minimum) (where the arena allows a longer course may be used, but Section A should include no more than 13 obstacles and Section B no more than 7 obstacles).

3. Team and Individual Entry Qualification

3.1 Team entry to the Winter League is open to any Area 5 Branch/Centre whether or not the Branch/Centre organises a competition during the Season.

3.2 Individual entry to the Winter League is open to all Area 5 Branch/Centre members.

3.3 Area 5 Branches/Centres may be permitted to organise a Winter League competition, in conjunction with another Branch or Centre with the approval of the Area 5 Winter League Committee. Such arrangement to be agreed before the start of the Season, or at such later time as the Area 5 WL Committee agree.

4. Teams

4.1 A Team will comprise a minimum of three and a maximum of four members of that Branch(es)/Centre(s).

4.2 Each Branch/Centre may enter only one official "Winter League Team" per class. Any additional teams entered in the same class will be considered "non-Winter League Teams."

4.3 Where a Branch/Centre enters more than one team they must, at entry stage, nominate which is their Winter League Team.

4.4 Where a Branch or Centre collaborates with another to co-organise a competition, they may enter a Combined Winter League Team, while still entering their own individual Branch or Centre Winter League Teams.

4.5 Members from different Branches/Centres may combine to form a Winter League Team, with the approval of the Area 5 WL Committee, subject to the arrangement being agreed before the start of the Season, or at a later time as the Area 5 WL Committee agree, to be known as a Combined Winter League Team.

4.6 Winter league Teams, and Team members, are to be detailed on the entry form.

4.7 Team members may be substituted from members entered in the competition, subject to the notification of the change to the Organiser, prior to the commencement of the Class. (a Class is deemed to have commenced, when the first rider has entered the arena for that Class).

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5. Team Members

Any Area 5 Branch/Centre member is eligible to be a member of a Team subject to the following conditions:

5.1 They must be a member of the Branch/Centre in whose Team they compete or, where the team is a Combined Team, they must be a member of one of the Branches/Centres.

5.2 Horses and members must have attended a minimum of three rallies/qualifying coaching/training sessions since the 1st January of the year in which the Season commenced.

5.3 At any one competition a horse may only compete in one Winter League Team unless, for example, where two family members genuinely share the same horse. In such case an exemption may be granted by the Area 5 Representative, subject to the DC detailing the information and submitting such a request, in writing, by close of entries for the competition.

5.4 A Team member may compete in different Classes, at different competitions, during a Season. For the avoidance of doubt a team member may not be a team member on two winter League teams at the same competition subject to 5.6

5.5 A member may not compete for another Area 5 Branch/Centre in a Winter League Team in the same Season.

5.6 Where a Branch/Centre has only two members entered in a Class, and cannot field a team the Branch/Centre may include one combination of horse/rider, who is a member of a Winter League Team from the Class below to make a Winter League Team of three. The results for the combination, riding up will only be counted for the Team score, their score will be ignored in the individual results of the class.

5.7 The combination of horse/rider may compete in more than one Class, but the 2nd or subsequent class(es) must be as an Individual, or as a member of a non-Winter League Team (subject to clause 5.3 and 5.6).

5.8 Members may ride more than one horse in the same Class, but they must nominate which is their WL horse in that Class prior to the start of the competition. They must compete on their nominated WL horse first before competing on the second horse. Failure to declare will result in the first horse ridden being deemed the winter league horse for that competition.

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6. Organisation of Competitions

6.1 Organisers are encouraged to organise the competition so as to allow Individuals and non-Winter League Teams to compete.

6.2 If a competition is over-subscribed resulting in some entries having to be refused, the Organiser must give priority to Winter League teams, over non-WL teams and Individuals, provided the entries have been received prior to the entry closing date.

6.3 Course changes, between all Classes, should be such as so to provide a “substantially different” course ideally incorporating a least one different obstacle with a change or route. (NB the addition of a single obstacle, without altering the route of the course itself, would not be sufficient to make the course “substantially different”).

Mixed Teams

6.4 The Organiser may place members, who are not in a Winter League Team, into non-Winter League Teams at their absolute discretion.

Order of Jumping

6.5 In the first Class, the Team representing the host Branch/Centre will jump first. In the later classes this may be reversed, so those Teams who have further to travel jump earlier.

6.6 In all Classes Winter League Teams should jump first, followed by any non-Winter League Teams and then Individuals.

7. Results and WL Points

7.1 The result of the Individual competition will be decided upon the total number of faults incurred in the two sections. The combination, horse and rider, with the least number of faults being the winner. In the event of equality of faults, the least time taken to complete the timed section will be the deciding factor.

7.2 The result of the Team competition will be decided upon the total number of faults incurred by three riders. The Team with the least number of faults over the two sections being the winner. In the event of equality of faults incurred, the least time taken to complete the timed section by the three riders, whose faults were counted in that round, will be the deciding factor.

7.3 Winter League Teams and Individuals, placed first to sixth in each Class, will be awarded Winter League points on a descending scale of six points for first place, and one point for sixth place. When awarding Team points, should a Winter League Team be placed below a non-Winter League Team, for the purpose of awarding points the non-Winter League Team should be ignored.

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7.4 The Organising Branch shall publish the results of each Class in writing or use live scoring, such as Pony Club Results. Where results are displayed in writing a full list of riders, faults incurred and provisional placings are to be available on a noticeboard, where they can be seen at least 15 minutes prior to the presentation for that Class, to allow time for objections to be made and/or errors to be corrected.

7.5 The Organiser shall appoint, if required, a Jury of Appeal consisting of the District Commissioner of the organising Branch(es), one of the judges and the Area 5 Representative. If the Area Representative is not present then the DC of a visiting Branch not directly involved in the appeal, may be invited to join the Jury.

7.6 Protests and Objections will, as far as possible and consistent with these Rules, be dealt with under the relevant paragraph of the Pony Club Show Jumping Rules.

7.7 The Organiser shall, within seven days of the Competition, post the results on Pony Club Results and shall send/scan a copy of the full lists of riders, faults incurred and results to the WLSJ secretary.

8. Awarding of Rosettes

8.1 Rosettes to be awarded to 6th place and prizes to 3rd in each class, for both Teams and Individuals.

8.2 Each Class shall be deemed to be a single Team competition, involving Winter League and non-WL Teams, although non-Winter League teams will not be awarded points, they will be equally eligible for the award of rosettes and prizes.

8.3 In each Class an Individual competition will run alongside the Team competition. All combinations entered in the Class will be eligible for the award of rosettes.

8.4 Rosettes will be awarded at the end of the season to teams placed 1st to 4th and to individuals placed 1st to 6th in each class, based on the total number of points accumulated during the season. Prizes to 3rd place will also be awarded to both teams and individuals in each class.

9. Competition Dates and Other Classes

9.1 Competition dates will be agreed at the Area and Branch DC' s meeting ahead of the Season and will be published on the Area 5 website. Clashes with other Area or Branch competitions should be avoided. This is to ensure that entries are maximised at every competition through the Season.

9.2 The organising Branch(es)/Centre(s) is/are responsible for arranging a suitable venue.

9.3 The Area 5 WL Committee will, prior to the commencement of the Season, agree the Winter League Schedule, to include Classes and entry fees which are set at £16

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10. Organisation of Competitions

10.1 The Organising Branch is responsible for all Health and Safety issues at the competition and should take all reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone present. All members, and others attending, must take reasonable steps to avoid and prevent accidents and must obey the instructions of the organisers, officials and stewards.

10.2 The Organising Branch must carry out a risk assessment before the commencement of the competition and should issue a disclaimer of liability, both prior to, and at the competition.

10.3 Any member who is riding a horse or pony which is considered by the organiser, an official or steward to be unsafe in any respect, either for that rider or for any other person present, or any person who is acting in any way which is considered unsafe, should be spoken to discreetly and, if appropriate, prevented from taking any further part in that competition and may be asked to leave the venue.