



AREA 5 PONY CLUB WINTER LEAGUE MOUNTED GAMES OBJECTIVES AND RULES

1. Objective of the Competition

- 1.1. The objective is to provide an inter-branch team competition (Winter League Mounted Games WLMG) for all Branches in Area 5, from October to March. Referred to below as the "Season", in two 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 WLMG 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 league table after each competition and publishing the results.

2. The Competition

- 2.1. The Competition will comprise two classes: Seniors and Juniors.
- 2.2. The Organising Branch/Branches may offer additional Classes. These Classes will not form a part of the WLMG Competition. The Schedule must detail what rules these classes are to be run under.
- 2.3. The WLMG will be run under the Pony Club Mounted Games Rules as at the beginning of the Season.

3. Teams

- 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. 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 Team. Such arrangement to be agreed ideally 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 four and a maximum of five members of that Branch/Centre. The five may compete in a different Class if eligible to do so.
- 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, on the Declaration Form, 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, who have insufficient members to form their own Branch/Centre team, may combine to form a Winter League Team, with the approval of the Area 5 WL Team, subject to the arrangement being agreed before the start of the Season, or at a later time as the Area 5 WL Team agree, to be known as a Combined Winter League Team.
- 4.6. Teams and Team members, are to be detailed on the declaration form.



- 4.7. Team members/ponies may be substituted, subject to the notification of the change to the Organiser/Chief Steward, prior to the commencement of the Class and the Declaration Form amended as appropriate. (A Class is deemed to have commenced, when the starters flag is dropped for the first race).

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. A Team member may compete in different Classes, at different competitions, during a Season.
- 5.3. A member may not compete for another Area 5 Branch/Centre in a Winter League Team in the same Season.
- 5.4. Where a Branch/Centre has only two/three members entered in a Class, and cannot field a team the Branch/Centre may include one or two combinations of pony/riders, who are a member of a Winter League Team from the Class below to make a Winter League Team of at least five.
- 5.5. The combination of pony/rider may compete in more than one Class.
- 5.6. Teams and Team members, are to be detailed on the declaration form.

6. Organisation of Competitions

- 6.1. Organisers are encouraged to organise the competition so as to allow 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, provided the entries have been received prior to the entry closing date.
- 6.3. Combined Teams - The Organiser and/or Team Trainers may place members, who are not in a Winter League Team, into non-Winter League Teams at their absolute discretion. However, see 4.5 where branches/centres may have insufficient numbers.

7. Results and WL Points

- 7.1. The result of the Team competition will be decided upon the final team placings. The winning Team will be the Team with the most points.
- 7.2. Teams will be awarded WL points on a descending scale of points for the number of teams competing in the Class. Where a Class is split into separate finals the lower final points will descend consecutively from the previous final.
- 7.3. 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.
- 7.4. A Combined Team shall not qualify for WL points unless Rule 4.5 is applicable.
- 7.5. The Organiser shall publish the results of each Class in writing or use live scoring, such as MG Scoreboard or Pony Club Results. Where results are displayed in writing a full list of teams, scores and provisional placings are to be available on a noticeboard, where they can be seen at least 10 minutes prior to the presentation for that Class, to allow time for objections to be made and/or errors to be corrected.
- 7.6. The Organiser shall appoint, if required, a Jury of Appeal consisting of the District Commissioner of the organising Branch(es), the Chief Steward 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.
- 7.7. Protests and Objections will, as far as possible and consistent with these Rules, be dealt with under the relevant paragraph of the Pony Club Mounted Games Rules.



- 7.8. The Organiser shall, within seven days of the Competition, post the results on MG Scoreboard or Pony Club Results and shall send a copy of the results to the Area 5 website and the WLMG secretary.

8. Awarding of Rosettes

- 8.1. Rosettes to be awarded as per the number of lanes for each class or where a Class is split into Finals.
- 8.2. A Combined Team or non-Winter League Team shall qualify for rosettes.
- 8.3. At the final competition of the Season rosettes, will be awarded to the Teams in each Class, who are placed 1st to 4th, based upon the total number of points accumulated during the Season.

9. Competition Dates and Other Classes

- 9.1. Where possible, 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 Team will, prior to the commencement of the Season, agree the Winter League Schedule and Classes. Entry fees to be determined by the Organiser to reflect varying venue and infrastructure costs.

10. Organisation of Competitions

- 10.1. The Organiser 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 Organiser must carry out a risk assessment before the commencement of the competition and Organisers should issue a disclaimer of liability, both prior to, and at the competition.
- 10.3. The Organiser must carry out a recording of all Incidents and follow the Pony Club Accident Reporting procedure.
- 10.4. 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.