

Bennachie Branch Rally & Event Safety Rules

Our aim is that everyone who attends one of our Rally's or Events has fun and remains safe. Rallies are under the governance of the Pony Club, please study the safety rules on the Pony Club website. Please also read guidance for each venue available on the Bennachie page. The following general rules are emphasised:

- Access gates should be closed after entering and exiting a venue.
- Members **must** wear their approved and 'tagged' riding hat when mounted and unmounted, near ponies. The hat harness must be fastened and appropriately adjusted. Likewise, anyone under the age of 16 accompanying the member to the rally must wear an appropriate safety helmet if handling or in close proximity of horses.
- Loading and unloading ponies from trailer or lorry is a time of increased risk of harm. Members are trained in safe processes as part of their rider development. Members may only load ponies if they have been awarded the C test and above, or are under instruction. The member's supervising adult remains responsible at all times. If supervising adults are uncertain about supervising this activity they should request advice from the ride instructor, the DC or a DC representative.
- At no time, should ponies be left unattended outside of trailers or lorries. Unattended ponies should always be secured within your trailer or lorry.
- Dogs must remain on a short, non-stretchy lead under close control at all times that horses are present.
- At the start of all lessons, a brief inspection of all riders and their mounts will be carried out by the instructor to ensure both pony and rider are safely turned out, with clean, tidy and correctly fitted equipment.
- Hooded tops or jackets are not to be worn while mounted.
- Further rules on turnout are described on the Pony Club website, questions regarding turnout should be directed to the DC.
- Each ride will have a qualified parent responsible for First Aid and a basic First Aid Kit.
 - Contained within the First Aid Kit will be the booklet of Risk Assessments for the venues we use, a list of Emergency Contacts and our Emergency Procedures.

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- Each ride will also have a nominated 'Duty Parent' who is the appointed person for Health and Safety reasons to coordinate any accident; organising/delegating the poo-picking duties; helping the instructor with equipment and co-ordinate entry and exit of their ride.
- If riders need to remove an item of clothing once mounted, they should ask for adult help and dismount their pony before removing if necessary.
- The use of Body Protectors is compulsory for all Cross Country and Pony Racing activities, and optional for other rallies. All Body Protectors must meet standard specified on the Pony Club website. Air jackets are a useful additional safety garment, but not a replacement for a body protector.
- Entry and exit to any arena will be marshalled by the Duty Parent.
 - At the beginning of an indoor mounted rally, the rider will be accompanied by an adult until they enter the arena on their pony.
 - The instructor will then ask the riders to walk away from the main doorway to prevent a logjam.
 - On finishing the ride, at a safe distance from the doorway, the instructor will ask riders to halt and dismount.
 - Parents/ guardians will then be asked to help children and ponies safely exit the arena.
- Please ensure that any droppings are removed from the carpark area before leaving. Dog dropping should also be removed.