

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 with the Branch / Centre Safeguarding Officer.

Branches and Centres should offer a positive experience for members and where they can learn new things in a safe 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.
- Be believed and supported.
- Ask for help.
- Have their concerns taken seriously and acted on as 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 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 on your team, members on opposing teams and other members of your Branch / Centre.
- Take care of and show respect to your horses / ponies.
- Play fairly and be trustworthy.
- Behave 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 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, getting 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.
- Do not smoke, possess or consume alcohol or drugs, of any kind, whilst in attendance at Pony Club events or whilst representing your Branch / Centre.
- Do not engage in sexual activity whilst in attendance at Pony Club.
- Do not criticise officials, coaches, volunteers, staff, members or parents / guardians on social networking sites or using text messages / emails.

- Do not leave an organised event unless accompanied by your parent / guardian or by a Branch / Centre official.
- Be aware that it is not acceptable to photograph or video an injured person.

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.