

FLAMSTEAD BRANCH OF THE PONY CLUB

Camp 2026 Letter 4

June 2026

Camp is drawing ever closer and we couldn't be more excited!

No doubt you all have lots of questions, so here's some information to help you get prepared.

Entrance to Camp will be via Gate 1 (Beechwood School end).

All information and links can also be found on the [Camp webpage](#).

Preparing for Camp

Get your pony/horse fit

If you haven't done so yet; please start getting your pony fit for camp. Ponies will be ridden every day, with a huge variety of activities ranging from flatwork to cross country and mounted games. They will get tired, and experience tells us as the week goes on, any unfit ponies struggle with the demands put on them, so please don't delay... here are some tips:

- Get out hacking
- Include some hill work
- Build up canter work using intermittent walk/trot/canter
- Remember that if you take energy out, it must be replaced with energy in their feed
- Ensure your pony is shod before Camp
- We strongly recommend that you do not compete the weekend before Camp.

Kit Lists

All the kit lists can be found on the Camp page. A reminder that TC Feeds is giving us 10% off – just quote Flamstead Pony Club!

Stable Info Form/Pony Medication

Complete [this form](#) in advance and bring printed and either laminated or in a waterproof cover and attach securely to the front of your stable. This includes sections on Pony Medication – please note that Camp is not run under competition rules, and we appreciate that some ponies might need some help to cope with the workload or for ongoing conditions. Please can medication NOT be put into feeds in advance. For any ponies requiring medication:

- Ensure you have completed the section on the Camper and Pony Form and on the Stable Form.
- Bring the medication clearly labelled to the secretary's tent on the first morning.
- Speak to Rosie Hamilton if you have any queries/concerns

Mini Camp Schedule

This has already been shared on the WhatsApp group and is now also available on the Camp webpage and on [this link](#).

Main Camp Schedule

Sunday 26th July

OPTIONAL. You *may* come to the field between 4:30pm and 6:00pm to drop off any non-valuable equipment and familiarise yourselves with the setup. For those in year 6 and above, who are staying overnight, this can include beds, bedding and clothes for the week. Please do NOT bring tack, this can come on Tuesday morning with your pony. There won't be anyone staying at the field on Sunday night so please don't leave anything valuable. Anything you do leave must be left together in the Mess Tent and campers can then sort out their marquees on Monday (do not start setting out beds on Sunday night or they will be moved!).

Monday 27th

Please bring your children for a non-mounted first day at 12.30pm. If you haven't brought equipment on Sunday, you can do so now. Also bring a picnic and any props/materials that have been agreed with your Tack rooms. There will be a short, compulsory Parents' Safety Briefing to start off with, by 1.30pm we need all vehicles and parents to have left the site as Mini Camp will be underway.

During this afternoon campers will be having tack room meetings, setting up their tents, tack rooms, stable and also be doing a Tetrathlon run around the field – so make sure they are dressed and equipped accordingly! Please collect them at 5.30pm sharp.

Tuesday 28th

Gates will open at 8am. Campers can arrive and park in the strip at the top of field 1. **Only those with trailers being used as Tack rooms can come onto the main field.** Please unload your pony and take them to the stable allocated. Sign in at the secretary's tent and hand in your named mobile phone and any medication you have. (Please note, there will be *no breakfast offered Tuesday morning*, so please ensure your child comes to camp well-fed).

As soon as ponies are settled in their stable (8.30am at the latest), parents (unless they are volunteering) must leave camp.

Campers, please come dressed and ready for your first activity, referring to the daily programme for what to wear, this will be published by Sunday evening and will be adjusted to take into account weather and ground conditions.

For flat work, mounted games, show jumping & dressage, riders should wear long or short-sleeved Flamstead/PC t-shirts and/or sweatshirts (no hoodies allowed). Plain beige, white or neutral (black/brown) colour jodhpurs only. Hats must be tagged; long hair must be tied back in a bun in a hairnet (no ponytails or plaits). For cross country, Jockey skull cap with no fixed peak is compulsory as well as a body protector. XC skins are allowed, as are T shirts but shoulders MUST be covered as a minimum. All hat covers should be plain or Flamstead colours. No spurs without a yellow hat tag.

Ponies & Tack should come to camp sparkly clean. Mounted Inspection will be at the Ride's Muster Point at 9.30am with Morning Ride at 9.45am.

If anyone needs to purchase or update their wardrobe, visit the [Branch clothing page](#).

During Camp

Daily Timetable available [here](#) and on Camp page.

Your day will consist of three sessions a day (two ridden plus stable management). Sessions may include dressage, show jumping, equitation, bareback riding, hacking in the field, grid work, pole work, arena eventing, mounted games, cross country, musical ride practice, shooting, swimming, fun games and stable management. This will be adjusted according to weather and ground conditions.

Breakfast, Lunch and Supper will be served daily as well as snacks, drinks and afternoon tea and cake. Water, squash, and fruit will be readily available throughout the day.

Day Campers are welcome to come for Breakfast but must go home at 5.15pm sharp and sign in and out every day.

There will also be a tuckshop after lunchtime, which is included in your camp fees so no need to pay any extra.

Wednesday is Tet day – every Camper will have the opportunity to try our Tetrathlon Shooting with coaches Phil & Andy. They need to have long trousers and trainers in order to be able to participate – all other equipment will be provided.

Thursday afternoon will be filled with a variety of demonstrations from a farrier to an equine behaviourist to a teambuilding exercise. This is such a fun and highly informative event that our campers always enjoy.

Thursday evening is BBQ night from 6pm until 9pm. Please bring your family & friends and join us at the Wild West BBQ. This is a renowned evening with a bucking broncho and superlative catering by the indomitable Juliet Laing. Everyone welcome. Children attending camp (both main and mini) go free. Following this, we encourage all campers to go home for a shower and a good night's sleep, but we request that all tackroom leaders stay so they can keep an eye on camp horses. If any camper drinks any alcohol they MUST return home. Campers MUST sign out.

[Tickets are now on sale](#). Please ensure you buy these by the deadline (27th July) as there will be NO LATE/ON THE DAY TICKETS due to catering restrictions.

Saturday 1st

Musical Ride from 10am

We invite all parents and friends back to the field to enjoy a Flamstead Special! This year's theme "Around the World on Horseback" will see each tackroom performing their own display. Bring your cameras!

Prize Presentations & Camp Clearing

As soon as the musical ride is completed, it's clear up time. Please help your children to:

- Remove all their personal belongings from the marquees, including lost socks and rubbish!!
- All stables must be fully mucked out and any labels, twine and pictures removed from the doors and bars.
- Check for any "lost" or unnamed items - we do not have the facility to look after or hold onto lost or misplaced items; anything left over that hasn't been claimed on the day will be donated to charity.

Clearing up camp relies on EVERYONE helping out. We will expect at least one parent from every child attending camp to help with camp clearance and tidy up.

Presentation of prizes and awards will commence after clear-up and then you are free to leave following a final muck out!

Sunday 2nd

Marquee dismantling

Marquees are being dismantled on Sunday 2nd at 2pm. Please [sign up to help](#) if you haven't already. A reminder that volunteering to help at Camp is mandatory.

New for 2026

Following learnings and feedback from last year, we will be introducing the following measures:

1. Marquee inspections. Camp Committee will be daily checking marquees for cleanliness, and these will be counted for Tack Room points. Bins will be provided and no meals to be eaten in marquees. A laminated list of marquee rules will be displayed.
2. Tack rooms will be on a drawn rota to keep the muck heap tidy.
3. Campers will earn stable management badges through the week.
4. Any campers who volunteer for set up/break down are able to count this for their [YELA award – sign up here](#) if you haven't already. Tack room leaders can also count hours spent as organising and planning for their tack room activities.
5. Each stable MUST have a **completed Stable Info form** clearly displayed. Please complete [this form](#) and either laminate it or put in a clear waterproof sheet and attach to your stable. We will also have a folder in the Secretary's tent with all medical and feed & behavioural details that you outlined on your [Camper & Pony Form](#). If there are any changes, please edit or complete this again so we have up to date information.
6. Hand grazing will be organised in groups (main camp only).
7. No Campers' Walkie Talkies allowed – they created a security and health & safety issue last year.
8. Phones will be strictly collected in nightly after hot chocolate and only available AFTER ponies have been fed and checked at 5.45pm.
9. Code of Conduct form will be circulated prior to Camp and will require a physical signature from every Camper on Day 1.
10. Ride muster points will be set up daily outside the stable zone.
11. Strictly NO videoing or photographing rides whilst you are volunteering at Camp.
12. Security: Increased volunteers for night shifts – thank you to everyone who has volunteered! Gates will be locked daily after day campers have left. We will be firmly insisting on campers remaining within camp limits. Anyone found outside the limits will be sent home.

If you have any questions or queries, please email flamstead@pcuk.org or contact us on WhatsApp.