

GRAFTON HUNT BRANCH QUALIFYING FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024

In the Grafton Hunt Branch we are really keen for as many of members as possible to enjoy the thrill of competing at Champs – and in 2024 there is something available for every age group, discipline and competition level.

We have compiled the following document to try and explain the ins and outs of how to get to Champs – so please read on...

Grafton Hunt Branch sits within Area 12 of the Pony Club UK.

Each Area runs their own qualifying competitions (known as 'Areas') for the JCB Pony Club Championships.

For the Regional Championships (SJ/ODE & Dressage PC70&80) Area 12 combines with Areas 6 and 8 to make up the Eastern Region.



There are 3 Championships depending on your level that you can qualify for over the Summer/Autumn:

1. The JCB Pony Club Championships (NATIONAL)
2. The Eastern Regional Championships (REGIONAL)
3. The Area 12 Championships (LOCAL)

The following document details which competitions you need to go to in order to qualify for the Summer/Autumn Championships and provides more information depending on the discipline you wish to compete in at each Championships.

How to qualify for each of the Championships this Summer/Autumn?

1. JCB National Championships

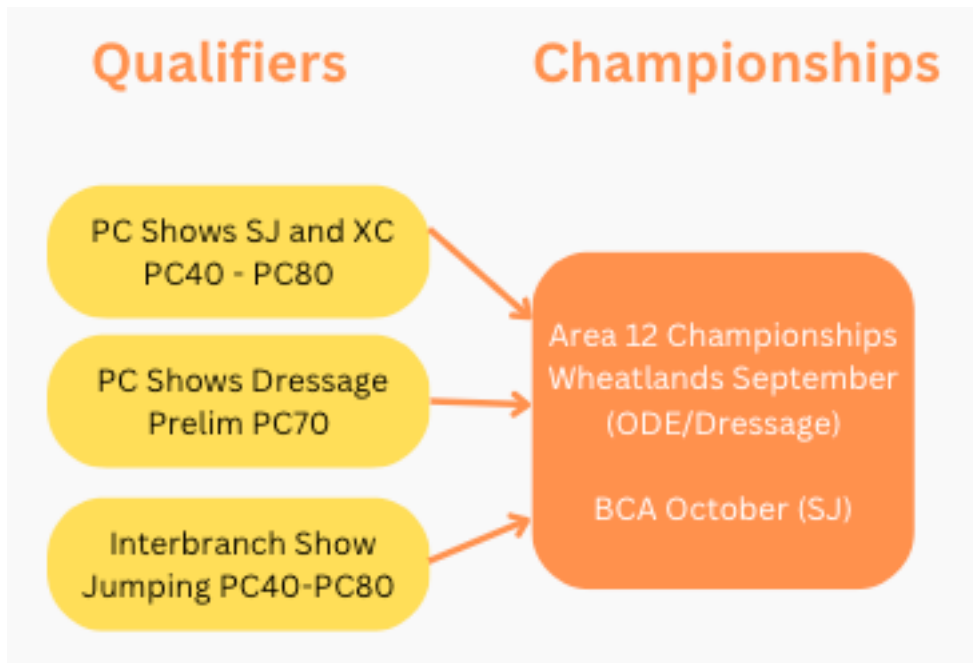


There are also non-qualifying direct entry classes at the JCB National Championships, including the Musical Ride.

2. Eastern Regional Championships



3. Area 12 Championships





There are a few broad points that are relevant for all:

1. The JCB Pony Club Championships at Offchurch Bury are the pinnacle of your Pony Club journey. Every member all over the country has a chance to compete at this hugely prestigious and exciting event, where every Pony Club discipline is represented by members at every level, from top competition horses to beloved family ponies, everyone has a chance!
2. The Championships courses/tests are always more challenging so aim to qualify at the level that you are very comfortable at and are able to go higher. So, if you are normally competing at 80/90, for example, aim to qualify at 80.
3. Once you have moved up levels, be prepared that you can't go back down levels again as a combination.
4. At Qualifiers and Champs, you must stay for the Prize Giving – so put aside the whole day and be prepared for some waiting.
5. Etiquette is important – make sure you and your pony are correctly attired for the competition AND for the prize giving.
6. If you have a genuine reason for not being able to come to our Area qualifiers, you can apply to compete and qualify out of area by applying to the DC (restrictions apply).
7. Finally, the more people that join a team, the better your chances are at qualifying. Teams have a much better chance than individuals, especially at Dressage and Eventing, so come and give it a go!

Please see the [rule books](#) for further details on all these points.

The following breaks down the information per discipline that the Grafton offers.

Show Jumping

More about the Qualifying Competitions	<p>How do I Qualify for Area 12 Championships at BCA on 27th October?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● 40-70cm - To qualify, the pony/horse & rider combination must have achieved a double clear round (no faults) at any Pony Club show at either 40, 50, 60, 70cms (depending on class entered.)● Qualification events are those run by any PC Branch and do not have to be in Area 12.● The Qualification Period is 1st October 2023 to end September 2024 for each class.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 80cm - To qualify for the 80cms you must have qualified by jumping a double clear at Interbranch PC80 on 15th June 2024. <p>NOTE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For all heights, the combination must have received a Qualification Card from their DC/Team Managers and have registered on the Area 12 Championship website. ● Our DC/Team Managers will ensure all qualified members are registered and so have a chance of entering as a Team Member or/and an Individual. ● At the Championships, it is a 2-round competition with the fences in the 2nd round being <u>5cms</u> higher so take this into consideration when training. <p>How do I qualify for Regional Championships at Aston Le Walls on 24th-25th August?</p> <p>Regionals are PC70 and PC80. The Qualifying Interbranch Regional Show Jumping Competition is held at <u>Middlegrove Farm on 15th June 2024</u>; a friendly show on grass which runs 40cms-80cms with the PC70 and the PC80 being team and individual qualifiers for the Regional Championships at Aston Le Walls in August and/or Area 12 Champs at BCA on 27th Oct (as above).</p> <p>How do I qualify for JCB Championships Showjumping in August at OffChurch Bury?</p> <p>The qualifying show for teams and individuals is Area Show Jumping on 22nd June at Addington for those jumping 90cms, 1m and 1.10m.</p>
<p>How are Teams chosen?</p>	<p>We would like to give everyone who is interested the chance to be part of their Branch team. However you will need to show competition experience at the level you want to compete at, at Pony Club, NSEA or unaffiliated competitions. Team spaces will be given on the basis of previous results and rally/training attendance. We can also put forward individual entries if there are not enough team spots for everyone. We can enter up to two teams per qualifying class.</p> <p>Members will be contacted in advance to make sure they can prepare appropriately.</p>
<p>What training should I be doing?</p>	<p>We provide frequent training rallies with a variety of instructors at different levels at loads of venues. Please keep a regular look out on our website and on Entrymaster.</p>

	<p>Entering local Pony Club competitions also really helps you prepare for the upcoming qualifiers. Please note that many of the Championships run at a slightly higher height than the qualifying competitions, so please take this into account in your practice!</p>
<p>Eligibility</p>	<p>Area 12 Championships Eligibility – 40cm, 50cm, 60cm, 70cm & 80cm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pony or horse/rider combination must not have competed at any Pony Club <i>Regional</i> or <i>Area</i> Show Jumping competitions. • In addition, the pony and horse/rider combination must not have been placed at <i>any</i> Show Jumping competition at a height more than 10cms above their Championship class height. • As the season progresses, it is likely that some competitors will qualify at two or even three heights. These competitors will be required to enter the Championships at their highest qualifying height. • Age restrictions apply for the 50cm and 70cms classes: <p>50cms - 12 yrs and under at 1st Jan 2024</p> <p>70cms – 13 yrs and under at 1st Jan 2024</p> <p>REGIONAL PC70 and PC80</p> <p>PC80 Riders are NOT eligible if they have previously represented their Branch or Centre at PC90 level or above.</p> <p>PC70 Riders must be aged 13 and under on 1st January of the current year. Riders are NOT eligible if they have previously completed at any PC80 or above Area or Regional competition for Show Jumping.</p> <p>AREAS & CHAMPIONSHIPS SJ PC90, PC100 and PC110</p> <p>Members must fulfil all the eligibility rules on the day of the Competition depending on the height entered.</p> <p>Full eligibility rules can be found in the Pony Club Show Jumping Rule Book. Each Rider/Parent is responsible for ensuring they understand and comply with the Rule Book and are eligible for selection.</p>
<p>What is the dress code?</p>	<p>Black, Navy or tweed competition jacket, white shirt, PC tie and badge, white or beige jodphurs. Long hair preferably in a hairnet or tied back neatly in a bun.</p>
<p>If I qualify – what next?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualifications 40cms to 80cms go to the Area 12 Championships at the BCA on 27th October 2024.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualifications obtained at Interbranch for PC70 and PC80 go to the Regional Championships held in Aston Le Walls on August 24th-26th and/or the Area 12 Champs at BCA on 27th October. • Area Qualifications for 90cms, 1m and 1.10m go to the National JCB Championships held 13th-17th August (exact date tbc) at Offchurch Bury, Warwick. <p>Please note: You must let us know if you are unable to commit to going to the Championships BEFORE we do entries as we will enter you either as an individual or in a non-qualifying team.</p>
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Eventing

<p>More about the Qualifying Competitions</p>	<p>Area Eventing Qualifier is running at Hambleden on Sunday 7th July with PC90, 100, 110 and the Chairman's Cup, which is PC100+ run with a trot up and Show Jumping on last day. All these except the 110 qualify for the JCB Championships held at Offchurch Bury 9-17th Aug. The date and venue for the 110 Champs is yet to be released.</p> <p>In the PC100, CC & 110 there is direct qualification if you receive fewer than 45 penalties in dressage, fewer than 16 faults in SJ and go clear in XC with fewer than 30 time penalties.</p> <p>Regional Eventing Qualifier will be held at Elmwood Sunday 9th June with PC70 & 80, which qualifies for the Eastern Regional Championships at Aston le Walls 24-26th August.</p> <p>Area 12 Championships. Throughout the year there are many PC One Day Events and Hunter Trials. Completing one of these with a clear cross country qualifies you for the Area 12 Championships in September at Wheatlands, which will have classes from PC40-PC80</p>
<p>How are Teams chosen?</p>	<p>We would like to give everyone who is interested the chance to be part of their Branch team. However you will need to show competition experience at the level you want to compete at, at Pony Club, NSEA or unaffiliated competitions. Team spaces will be given on the basis of previous results and rally/training attendance. We can also put forward individual entries if there are not enough team spots for everyone. We can enter up to two teams per qualifying class.</p> <p>Members will be contacted in advance to make sure they can prepare appropriately.</p>

What Training should I be doing?	You will need to gain experience of riding XC courses at your chosen height, especially our Hunter Trials in May, as the 70cm+ XC courses are up to height and go out into the country. In addition, you will need to have regularly practised your dressage tests on grass, not just on a surface, as it will all be held on grass. There will be branch training on offer over the summer, so it is up to you to sign up.
Eligibility	The eligibility criteria are different for all the classes, but generally you cannot compete in a class if you have evented more than 10cm bigger. See the Eventing Rule Book
What is the dress code?	Dressage & SJ – white saddle pad Tweed or black/navy jacket Stock shirt & pony club stock/tie Beige or white jods XC – Grafton Hunt XC base layer & silk
If I qualify – what next?	90,100,100+ Pony Club Championships Offchurch Bury, 13 th -17 th August (it won't be all these days, the exact schedule has not come out yet) 70,80 Eastern Regional Championships Aston le Walls 24-26 th August 40-80 Area 12 Championships, September date at Wheatlands Please note: You must let us know if you are unable to commit to going to the Championships BEFORE you do entries as we will enter you either as an individual or in a non-qualifying team.

Dressage

More about the Qualifying Competitions	<p>Area 12 Championships</p> <p>To qualify for the Area 12 Championships, the pony or horse/rider combination must have completed successfully (i.e. attained 65% or higher and/or been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a class of 10 riders or more). Qualification events are those run by a PC Branch but do not have to be in Area 12.</p> <p>The Qualification Period is 1st October 2023 to close of entries for each class.</p> <p>The combination must have received a Qualification Card from their DC and have registered on the Area 12 PC Championship website.</p> <p>More Info to follow when released.</p> <p>Regional Champs & JCB Pony Club Champs - qualifying event for both is at the Area Qualifier at BCA 30th June.</p> <p>This competition is for all riders from PC70 (Prelim), PC80 (Grassroots) up to the Novice, Intermediate and Open classes. You can compete as an individual and team member. We will put together teams to include all those wishing to compete.</p>
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	<p>This competition also features a Prix Caprilli class, a simple dressage test incorporating 1 or 2 small jumps, which is exclusive to Area 12, and is a great introduction to dressage for younger or novice members.</p> <p>All tests are available on the PC Website under Sport / Dressage / Dressage Tests.</p> <p><u>PC70 and PC80</u> This is aimed at introductory levels, with simple and encouraging tests. If you qualify at BCA at these levels, you can compete at the Regional Championship at Aston Le Walls on 24th-26th August.</p> <p><u>Novice, Intermediate and Open</u> Qualifiers at these levels compete at the JCB Championships 13th-17th August.</p>
<p>How are Teams chosen?</p>	<p>Team selection is based on experience, results and current competition form.</p> <p>Please note: You must let us know if you are unable to commit to going to the Championships BEFORE we do entries as we will enter you either as an individual or in a non-qualifying team.</p>
<p>What Training should I be doing?</p>	<p>Training should be regular, with your own instructor and / or by attending the dressage rallies.</p> <p>There is only one test per level so if you are interested in competing (a slightly harder version will be ridden as the Championships test), get learning the test and practise it and the movements regularly where possible. There are many PC and unaffiliated dressage competitions on over the year in our area which are excellent opportunities to practise and some even allow you to do PC test in the 'Pick Your Own' classes. Competition is strong, so get practising as soon as you can!</p>
<p>Eligibility</p>	<p>Please check the PC rule book / website.</p>
<p>What is the dress code?</p>	<p>Dress code for all dressage is black / navy / tweed show jacket, PC stock, pin and badge.</p> <p>White or beige breeches, hat / silk to complement jacket, black or dark brown boots / half chaps.</p> <p>White dressage pad, number bib / badges</p> <p>Tack - please see PC rule book or ask ...plain black or brown tack, no martingales, snaffle / hanging snaffle or similar bit.</p> <p>No boots. Horses / ponies should be plaited.</p>
<p>If I qualify – what next?</p>	<p>The Regional Championships are at Aston Le Walls 24th-26th August. The JCB Pony Club National Championships is 13th -17th August, at Offchurch Bury, actual date to be confirmed. Make sure you have those dates blocked in your diary.</p>



For any questions, or to register your interest, please email Alana Cowley alanac_w@yahoo.co.uk

Thank you – hopefully see you all at some qualifying competitions!