

# PONY CLUB



## RULEBOOK 2026



# EVENTING

[pcuk.org](http://pcuk.org)

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# OBJECTIVES

The Pony Club Eventing objective is to encourage a higher standard of riding and to stimulate in Members a greater interest in riding as a sport and as a recreation.

Pony Club Eventing requires courage, determination and all-round riding ability on the part of the rider and careful and systematic training of the horse.

These Rules cannot provide for every eventuality, and where a situation is not addressed by Pony Club Eventing rules, the British Eventing Rule Book should be consulted. If neither provide appropriate guidance, it is the duty of officials to resolve the matter arising in a sporting spirit consistent with the intention of these Rules. It is the competitors' responsibility to ensure that they comply with Pony Club Eventing Rules.

The term "District Commissioner" includes "Centre Proprietor", "Branch" includes "Centre" and "horse" includes "pony".

## EXPLANATION OF COMPETITION

EVENTING is a three-phase competition - Dressage, Show Jumping and Cross Country, each of which must be completed mounted. The Dressage Test will be ridden first, followed by Show Jumping and then Cross Country.

This order will be adhered to at all Levels except for the Chairman's Cup Championship class. Pony Club Eventing is graded from PC70, PC80, PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup and PC110. PC110 is the equivalent of British Eventing's Novice standard, PC100 is BE100 and PC90 is BE90.

All competitors in the same class must complete the three phases in the same order.

Each horse must be ridden by the same rider throughout. A horse may only compete once on any given day in Eventing.

## RULES

The Pony Club Eventing Rules are based on British Eventing's rules for Affiliated Eventing, amended to meet Pony Club requirements by The Pony Club Eventing Committee in conjunction with other Pony Club Committees.

Please note: Pony Club Sections (including Area Competitions) at fixtures organised by British Eventing may run under either British Eventing Rules

or Pony Club Eventing Rules. It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure they are aware under which rules the competition will be run.

The Pony Club Office provides administrative support. Queries relating to these rules should be directed to the Office at [eventing@pcuk.org](mailto:eventing@pcuk.org) and copied to the Chairman of Eventing at [eventingchairman@pcuk.org](mailto:eventingchairman@pcuk.org).

This Rule Book is a guide for Competitors. Competition Organisers should refer to the Eventing Organisers' Handbook in conjunction with these rules.

# THE PONY CLUB EVENTING COMMITTEE

## Chairman

- ▶ Patrick Campbell (2028)  
Email: [eventingchairman@pcuk.org](mailto:eventingchairman@pcuk.org)

## Members

- ▶ Julie Campbell (2026)
- ▶ Nicky Morrison (2026)
- ▶ Hetta Wilkinson (2026)
- ▶ David Burton (2027)
- ▶ Christina Thompson (2027)
- ▶ Sarah Verney (2027)
- ▶ Sam York (2028)
- ▶ Robin Bower, Area Representative (2028)
- ▶ Sue Cheape, Area Representative (2028)
- ▶ Amy Veitch (co-opted)

**Sports Officer** - [eventing@pcuk.org](mailto:eventing@pcuk.org)

**Health & Safety** - [safety@pcuk.org](mailto:safety@pcuk.org)

## The Pony Club

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# SECTION A – ADMINISTRATIVE RULES FOR AREA COMPETITIONS AND THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Each Area will hold an annual Area Qualifying Competition, allowing participants the chance to qualify for either The Pony Club Eventing Championships or their Regional Championships. If an Area competition receives more entries than can be accommodated, the Area Representative may limit entries as needed. Conversely, if an Area has too few entries to run its competition, it may, with approval from The Pony Club and British Eventing, merge its event into a suitable British Eventing fixture. These combined events will feature “Open” sections at the relevant level, allowing riders of any age and horses of any grade to participate, except as noted in Rule 1 below.

To facilitate participation, especially for those not registered with British Eventing, with unregistered horses, or those not meeting the current BE MER Rule for that level, organisers should make arrangements well in advance. For more information about entry procedures, organisers can reach out to The Pony Club Office.

Areas may also choose to collaborate with another Area to host a joint competition.

Proprietors of Pony Club Centres can enter teams and individuals under the same rules that apply to Branch entries.

**An Official Steward will be appointed for all Area competitions running PC90 - PC110. For Area competitions running PC70 and PC80, the Organiser must appoint an Official Steward who is familiar with The Pony Club Eventing Rules.**

## 1. ELIGIBILITY FOR AREA COMPETITIONS AND THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The District Commissioner is required to certify the eligibility of horse and rider as follows. Should a breach of eligibility subsequently be discovered, then the Eventing Committee may disqualify that competitor.

**Area** – Members must fulfil all the following eligibility rules on the day of their Area Competition.

**Championships** – Between the Area Competition and the Championships, combinations that qualify for the Championships may compete in British

Eventing (BE) or Eventing Ireland (EI) competitions at one level higher than the level at which they qualified. However, they cannot compete more than one level higher. Please see below for more details.

### **PC70 AND PC80 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND PC90, PC100, PC CHAIRMAN'S CUP AND PC110 CHAMPIONSHIPS**

1. All horses graded British Eventing Advanced (Grade 1) (or Eventing Ireland Advanced) which have completed an AI/A level during the current year are ineligible at all levels.
2. All horses must be at least 5 years old to compete. A horse or pony is considered to be 1 year old on January 1st following its birth and will be considered a year older on each subsequent January 1st. There is no height limit for horses or ponies.
3. No horse may compete at more than one level of Eventing (PC70, PC80, PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup, or PC110) at the Area level or above in any given year. Additionally, no horse may be ridden more than once in any qualifying competition or at the Eventing Championships during that year. However, a combination of horse and rider may qualify and compete in both the PC110 Championship and the PC Chairman's Cup Championships.
4. Riders or horses that have schooled over the Area or Championship Cross Country course within the two weeks leading up to the competition are not eligible to compete. However, competing on the course does not affect a competitor's eligibility.
5. All competitors must be Members of The Pony Club both at the closing date for entries to the competition and at the date of the relevant competition to be eligible to compete at Area qualifying competitions and at the Championships (including the Regional Championships).

### **PC70 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Members must be aged 13 and under on 1st January of the current year.

#### **Area Competitions:**

Combination of horse and rider are NOT eligible if they have:

- ▶ previously completed at any PC80 or above Area or Regional competition for Eventing.
- ▶ achieved more than two cross-country rounds with no jumping penalties at BE (or EI) 80 or above.

### **Championships:**

As for Area Competitions except that the combination of horse and rider are permitted to have:

- ▶ Achieved three or more cross-country rounds with no jumping penalties at BE (or EI) 80 or above.

### **PC70 PLUS REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

This is a class solely for individuals. There is no team competition. Members must be aged 14 and over on 1st January of the current year.

### **Area Competitions:**

Combination of horse and rider are NOT eligible if they have:

- ▶ previously completed at any PC80 or above Area or Regional competition for Eventing.
- ▶ achieved more than two cross-country rounds with no jumping penalties at BE (or EI) 80 or above.

### **Championships:**

As for Area Competitions except that the combination of Horse and Rider are permitted to have:

- ▶ Achieved three or more cross-country rounds with no jumping penalties at BE (or EI) 80 or above.

### **PC80 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **Area Competitions:**

Combination of horse and rider are NOT eligible if they have:

- ▶ Previously completed at PC90 or above in any Eventing Area Competitions.
- ▶ Achieved more than two cross-country rounds with no jumping penalties at BE (or EI) 90 or above.

### **Championships:**

As for Area Competitions except that the combination of horse and rider are permitted to have:

- ▶ Achieved three or more cross country rounds with no jumping penalties at BE (or EI) 90 or above.

## **PC90 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **Area Competitions:**

Combination of horse and rider are NOT eligible if they have:

- ▶ Completed a PC100 Area Eventing competition or above in the current or previous year.
- ▶ Completed a British Eventing (or EI) Novice or Pony Trials or above in the current or previous year.
- ▶ Achieved more than two cross country rounds with no jumping penalties at BE (or EI) 100 or above in the current or previous year.

### **Championships:**

As for Area Competitions except that the combination of horse and rider are permitted to have:

- ▶ Achieved three or more cross-country rounds with no jumping penalties at BE (or EI) 100 or above.

## **PC100 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

### **Area Competitions:**

Combination of horse and rider are NOT eligible if they have:

- ▶ Completed a PC110 or PC100+/Chairman's Cup Area Eventing competition or above in the current or previous year.
- ▶ Completed a British Eventing (or EI) Intermediate or above in the current or previous year.
- ▶ Achieved more than two clear cross-country rounds at British Eventing (or EI) Novice, (or Pony Trials, Open Novice or BE105) in the current or previous year.

### **Championships:**

As for Area Competitions except that the combination of horse and rider are permitted to have:

- ▶ Achieved three or more cross-country rounds with no jumping penalties at BE Novice (EI Novice or Pony Trials).

## **PC CHAIRMAN'S CUP NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

This is a team and individual competition. At the Championships there will be a trot up prior to the Dressage Phase. Hard hats, gloves and sensible footwear must be worn for the trot up. The Show Jumping will take place on

the final day in reverse order of placings.

In the event of over subscription, priority will be given to those who qualify at their Area competitions.

## **2. QUALIFICATION FOR PC70 AND PC80 REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS AND PC90, PC100, PC CHAIRMAN'S CUP AND PC110 CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Each Pony Club Area will organise a qualifying competition.

### **a) Team Competition**

Teams must consist of three or four **different** Members from each Branch/Centre of The Pony Club. **One Member in a team of three different Members may ride two horses to make a team of four horses.** Only the best three scores of each team are counted, but at least three members must complete the competition.

If the individual qualifiers are also part of a qualifying team the individual qualifying place shall pass down the line.

All members competing as part of a Team will also compete individually in their own section, with their individual scores contributing to the overall team score. Additionally, Branches can enter extra members as individuals who are not part of a Team.

All team members qualifying for PC100, PC90, PC80 and PC70 must have completed the Cross-Country phase at the Area Competition. If a rider is technically eliminated in the Dressage or Show Jumping phases, they should be allowed to complete the competition with the approval of the Official Steward.

### **Area Teams**

if a Branch has a Member/s who are not included in a team, they may combine with one or more Branches/Centres in a similar situation to form a team to compete at the Area Competition. **Area Teams may not contain three Members from the same Branch/Centre.**

This team shall be eligible to qualify for the Championships. Should an Area Team qualify for the Championships, then the next placed eligible Branch Team shall also qualify.

Area Teams can only be put together by the Area Representative and/or Area Organiser. **New Area Teams cannot be put together after the Area**

## **Competition, only Area Teams that have qualified can compete at the Championships.**

Where scores are equal, please refer to Rule 15 to determine classification and/or Championship qualification.

### **b) Number to Qualify**

The following qualify for the Championships:

#### **PC70 (Regional Championships)**

Members must be aged 13 and under on 1st January of the current year.

##### **Teams**

- ▶ Top **6** teams to qualify.
- ▶ A **7th** team to qualify if more than 12 teams start.

##### **Individuals**

- ▶ If one section is run, the top **16** individuals will qualify.
- ▶ If two sections are run, the top **8** individuals in each section will qualify.
- ▶ If four sections are run, the top **4** individuals will qualify.

#### **PC70 PLUS (Regional Championships)**

This is a class solely for individuals. Members must be aged 14 and over on 1st January of the current year.

##### **Individuals**

- ▶ Top **6** individuals to qualify,

#### **PC80 (Regional Championships)**

##### **Teams**

- ▶ Top 6 teams to qualify
- ▶ The 7th team to qualify if more than 12 teams start.

##### **Individuals**

- ▶ If one section is run, the top 16 individuals will qualify.
- ▶ If two sections are run, the top 8 individuals in each section will qualify.
- ▶ If four sections are run, the top 4 individuals in each section will qualify.

## PC90

### Teams

- ▶ Winning team qualifies automatically
- ▶ 2nd team qualifies if 6 or more teams compete
- ▶ 3rd team qualifies if 10 or more teams compete
- ▶ 4th team if more than 14 or more teams compete

### Individuals

- ▶ The winner and runner up of each section qualifies automatically
- ▶ 3rd in section qualifies if 8 or more competed in that section
- ▶ 4th in section qualifies if 12 or more competed in that section
- ▶ 5th in section qualifies if 16 or more competed in that section
- ▶ 6th in section qualified if 20 or more competed in that section

## PC100

### Teams

- ▶ Top two teams qualify automatically.
- ▶ 3rd team qualifies if 5 or more teams compete.
- ▶ 4th team qualifies if 10 or more teams compete.

### Individuals

- ▶ The winner of each section qualifies automatically.
- ▶ 2nd in section qualifies if 8 or more competed in that section.
- ▶ 3rd in section qualifies if 12 or more competed in that section.
- ▶ 4th in section qualifies if 16 or more competed in that section.

At PC100 Pony Club Area Competitions: any combination who are clear XC with less than 30 time penalties, 16 or under Show Jumping

penalties and under 45 Dressage penalties automatically qualify for the Championships.

## PC CHAIRMAN'S CUP

### Individuals

- ▶ The winner of each section qualifies automatically
- ▶ 2nd in section qualifies if **5** or more competed in that section
- ▶ 3rd in section qualifies if **8** or more competed in that section
- ▶ 4th in section qualifies if **10** or more competed in that section

All Qualifiers for the PC110 Championship automatically qualify for the

## Chairman's Cup.

At Chairman's Cup Pony Club Area Competitions: any combination who are clear XC with less than 30-time penalties, 16 or under Show Jumping penalties and under 45 Dressage penalties automatically qualify for the Championships. Competitors qualifying direct from their Area Competition are not required to compete a MER 105.

Also, for the Chairman's Cup, individuals may qualify if they have a minimum of **2 MERS, which must be gained in the previous or current year, and at least one in the current year.**

A MER can be gained by completing a BE100 or above or a PC100 or above. At least one MER must be at 105 or above. (With results on ponyclubresults.co.uk or eventingscores.co.uk) with:

- ▶ no more than 45 dressage penalty points;
- ▶ a clear round cross country with no more than 30-time penalties and
- ▶ a show jumping round with no more than 16 jumping penalties.

In the event of oversubscription priority will be given to those who qualify via their Area competition.

**At the Chairman's Cup Championships**, qualifying members will be put into their respective Area squad and the top three scores will count as the Area Team.

If a Branch has three or four qualified members at the Championships, then a Branch team can be declared.

## **PC110**

### **Individuals**

At PC110 Pony Club Area Competitions: any combination who are clear XC with less than 30 time penalties, 16 or under Show Jumping penalties and under 45 Dressage penalties automatically qualify for the Championships.

OR

Must have either:

- ▶ Been placed in the top 10% at any BE110 competition or equivalent with results on ponyclubresults.co.uk or eventingscores.co.uk; OR
  - ▶ Obtained double clears (i.e., No jumping penalties on two occasions at any BE **Novice** or equivalent, or PC110 (including Area) competitions;
- OR

- ▶ Gained **2** Minimum Eligibility Requirement Points (MERs) **in the current or previous year, one of which must be in the current year.**

A MER can be gained by completing a BE Novice or PC110 Area Competition or PC110 competition with:

- ▶ No more than 45 Dressage penalty points
- ▶ A clear Cross-Country round with no more than 30 time penalties; AND
- ▶ A Show Jumping round with no more than 16 jumping penalties.

In the event of oversubscription, entries will be selected by the Eventing Committee with priority given to those with the best results in the current year.

The PC110 Championships 2026 will count towards a BE Novice MER. Details for entries will be found on The Pony Club website.

## **Teams**

All entries will be put in their relevant PC Area squad and the top three scores at the competition will count and be eligible for the team prizes.

If a Branch has three or four individually qualified members at the Championships, then a Branch team can be declared.

## **b) PC110 Eventing and PC Chairman's Cup - Team and Individual Championships**

Members are not required to qualify through the Area Competitions, but ALL entries must be verified by the DC.

## **c) Out of Area Qualification**

Branches will compete within their own Areas. In the event of a genuine reason why a Member cannot compete at their own Area Competition they may apply to their DC to compete out of Area clearly stating the reasons why. The DC/Centre Proprietor will forward the request to their Area Rep, who will seek approval from the relevant Sport Chairman. The final decision lies with the Sports Chairman. The following points should be noted:

- ▶ Only individuals may be permitted to compete out of Area.
- ▶ Should a Member compete out of Area and place in a qualifying position, the next placed member of a Branch belonging to the Area shall also qualify.
- ▶ A Member who qualifies out of Area cannot displace any Members in a

qualified complete Branch/Area team.

### 3. SECTIONS

Competitions should be run with four dressage arenas, A, B, C and D. The first rider in each Team shall be judged in Arena A, the second in Arena B, the third in Arena C and the fourth in Arena D. Individuals can be placed into sections to even out numbers in each Arena and stagger the times of team members.

If only two arenas are available, there must be two sections in each arena, run one after the other, with four dressage judges assigned.

For competitions with fewer than 72 competitors, two arenas (A and B) may be used. The first two riders from each team will compete in Arena A, and the third and fourth riders will compete in Arena B. Alternatively, even-numbered riders will be in Arena A and odd-numbered riders in Arena B.

In a class where there are fewer than 20 competitors on the day, it is permissible to run one Section, in one arena.

It is not permissible to run three Sections.

There must only be one Team competition for each class.

### 4. ENTRIES

#### a) Area Competitions

Entries should be made to the organising Branch/Centre. Details to be found in the Area Competition schedule. Entries must have the approval of the District Commissioner. A start fee may be charged if necessary.

**All Area Competitions must be added as an event on PELHAM as a minimum. This is done automatically when an approved entry system is used.**

**All results must be on Pony Club Results, with all Membership numbers. This is completed automatically if an approved entry system is used.**

#### b) Championships

All qualified Team or Individuals who have qualified for the Championships must enter via the online entry system as per the competition schedule.

Should a qualifying Team/Individual subsequently be unable to compete

at the Championships, the next highest placed Team/Individual could be invited to compete, provided the substitution is made before close of entries.

If a Team ceases to be eligible following withdrawals (fewer than three Members remaining), the team place would then be passed down the line, as long as the withdrawals are made before close of entries. The remaining individual/s from that Team may retain their place/s as individuals.

In addition to those qualified above, overseas Branches may be invited to compete, but at their own expense. They will be awarded appropriate rosettes but are not eligible for prizes in kind or bursaries.

## **5. WITHDRAWALS (ALL COMPETITIONS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS)**

If a Branch or Centre withdraws a team or individual prior to the closing date for a competition, a full refund of entry and stabling fees will be made, less an administration charge. Withdrawals after the closing date for a competition will not be refunded.

## **6. ABANDONMENT (ALL COMPETITIONS AND CHAMPIONSHIPS)**

In the event of a competition being abandoned, for whatever reason, a refund of 50% of the entry fee will be given. In such an instance the refund process will be communicated and must be followed.

## **7. SUBSTITUTION**

### **a) Area Competitions**

After the closing date for entries no substitutions may be made of horses or riders except in cases of illness, lameness or other unavoidable circumstances which must be certified by the District Commissioner or their Appointed Representative.

In such a case:

- ▶ If a horse has to be substituted, an alternative rider may be nominated.
- ▶ If a rider has to be substituted, an alternative horse may be nominated.
- ▶ If a Branch enters more than one Team, a substitution may be made from one Team to another.
- ▶ No substitution shall be allowed after the Competition has started.
- ▶ No horse or rider replaced by a substitute may re-enter the

Competition.

- ▶ In all cases of substitution, the District Commissioner or their Appointed Representative must certify that the substitute is eligible.

## **b) All Championships (Except PC110)**

### i. Teams **(except Chairman's Cup):**

- ▶ The District Commissioner may substitute riders or horses in the Branch Team before entry. At least two combinations of horse and rider must be the same as those that started in the qualifying team at the Area Competition.
- ▶ Substituted riders or horses must have completed **an** Area competition **at the correct level.**
- ▶ If a horse is substituted, an alternative rider may be nominated, and vice versa.
- ▶ Substitutions are allowed between teams if a Branch has more than one qualified team.

### ii. Additional Member

- ▶ A Branch or Area team of three may add a fourth member at the Championships, provided both the horse and rider are eligible and have completed the Area Competition.

### iii. Individuals:

- ▶ A substitute horse may be entered, but not a substitute rider. The substitute horse must have completed the Area Competition.

### iv. Restrictions:

- ▶ No substitutions are allowed after the competition starts.
- ▶ A replaced horse or rider cannot re-enter.

### v. Certification:

- ▶ All substitutions must be certified by the District Commissioner/Centre Proprietor or an appointed representative for eligibility under Rule 1.

## **8. BRANCH REPRESENTATIVE**

If the District Commissioner of a competing team or individual is unable to be present at the Area Competition or Championships, they must inform the Organiser of the Competition, the name of the person appointed to be their representative.

# SECTION B - GENERAL RULES FOR ALL PONY CLUB EVENTING

## 9. THE DRESSAGE PHASE

### a) The Test

For Area Qualifiers and the Championships please refer to the table below:

Level	Area	Championships
PC70 Regional Championships	<b>Foundation PC70 Test 2026</b>	<b>Foundation PC70 Test 2026</b>
PC80 Regional Championships	<b>Grassroots PC80 Test 2026</b>	<b>Grassroots PC80 Championship Test 2026</b>
PC90	<b>PC90 Eventing Test 2026</b>	<b>PC90 Eventing Championship Test 2026</b>
PC100	<b>PC100 Eventing Test 2026</b>	PC100 Eventing Test 2025
PC Chairman's Cup	<b>PC Chairman's Cup Eventing Test 2026</b>	<b>PC Chairman's Cup Eventing Championship Test 2026</b>
PC110	<b>PC110 Eventing Test 2026</b>	<b>PC110 Eventing Championship Test 2026</b>

- ▶ Where competitions are run within BE events, the relevant BE dressage test may be used.
- ▶ The Pony Club Tests are all shown in Appendix B.
- ▶ The arenas shall be either wholly or partly boarded at the discretion of the Organiser.
- ▶ Tests are to be ridden from memory at PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup and PC110 and commanders are not allowed. **Tests may be commanded at PC70 and PC80 at Area Qualifiers, and PC70 Regional Championships only.**

- ▶ There are no time limits.

## **b) Execution of the Test**

All movements must follow in the order laid down in the Test.

In a movement that must be carried out at a certain point of the arena, it is at the moment when the rider's body is above this point that the movement must be executed.

All tests should be ridden with both hands except where stated otherwise on the Test Sheet.

All trot work may be executed sitting or rising at the discretion of the rider  
**unless otherwise stated in the test.**

## **c) Entering the Arena**

No horse either ridden or led may enter any arena, other than the practice arena, except when actually competing, on penalty of elimination.

Competitors must not enter the arena until the Judge has sounded the horn, rung the bell or signified in some other way that the rider may start.

Entering before the Judge's signal may lead to elimination.

Should the construction of the arena make it impossible for the competitor to ride round the outside before the Judge's signal to enter is sounded, the rider may, on the instruction of the Organiser and/or Judge, ride inside the arena.

## **d) Salute**

All riders must take the reins and whip, if carried AT PC70 and PC80, in one hand when saluting and drop the other hand down by the side and bow with their head only.

## **e) Dismounting and Fall of Horse and/or Rider**

If, after the rider has entered the arena, the rider dismounts without a reason acceptable to the Judges, no marks will be given for the movement.

A fall of horse and/or rider in the arena will result in the competitor being eliminated from the competition.

If the fall of horse and/or rider occurs in the warm up arena the rider must be checked by the medical personnel at the event before being allowed to continue and if the horse falls, the horse must be checked by a vet before

being allowed to continue. If a vet is not present the horse must be checked by the Official Steward before being allowed to continue.

### **f) Resistance**

Any horse failing to enter the arena within 60 seconds of the bell being sounded will be eliminated.

Any horse refusing to continue the test for a period of 20 consecutive seconds during the course of a test will be eliminated.

### **g) Grinding of Teeth and Tail Swishing**

Grinding the teeth and swishing the tail are signs of nervousness, tenseness, or resistance on the part of the horse and can be taken into account by the Judges in their marks for the movements concerned, as well as in the appropriate collective mark at the end.

### **h) Assistance**

**The Voice – Discreet use of the rider's voice is permitted in local Branch/Centre competition as a supportive aid. It must be used in a way that is unobtrusive and does not disturb the adjacent arena(s). Foul language and obscenities are not permitted and will result in elimination.**

**The use of the voice is also permitted at Foundation PC70 and Grassroots PC80 Area Competitions and Championships**

**The use of the rider's voice is prohibited at PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup and PC110 Area Competitions and Championships. At these competitions, the use of the rider's voice is to be penalised by the loss of two marks from the score that would have been awarded for each movement in which it occurred.**

**Outside Assistance** – Any outside assistance by voice, signs, etc., is considered as assistance to a rider or to their horse. A rider or horse receiving assistance will be eliminated.

### **i) Leaving the Arena**

A horse is eliminated if, during a Test, it leaves the arena when the surround is 23cm (9") high or more.

Where the surround is less than 23cm (9") and is marked by boards or similar, no marks shall be given for the movement when the horse places all four feet outside the arena.

Where the arena is marked only by a line or intermittent boards, it is left to the discretion of the Judge(s) as to the marks deducted.

Any horse leaving the arena not under control will be eliminated and, for this purpose, the Test begins when the horse enters at 'A' and finishes with the final halt.

Competitors should leave the arena at a convenient place in free walk on a long rein.

### **j) Errors of Course or Test**

When a competitor makes an 'error of course' (such as taking a wrong turn or omitting a movement), the Judge warns them by sounding the bell. The Judge will indicate, if necessary, the point at which the competitor must resume the test, as well as the next movement to be executed, before leaving them to continue on their own.

However, in some cases, if the competitor makes an 'error of course' but sounding the bell would unnecessarily impede the fluency of the performance, it is up to the Judge to decide whether or not to sound the bell.

In fairness to the competitor, it is recommended that the bell should be rung when a movement is executed at the wrong marker, especially if there is a possibility of a similar mistake when the movement is to be repeated on the other rein.

If the Judge does not realise that one or more movements have been omitted until the competitor has left the arena, they must:

- ▶ Adjust the position of their marks and comments on the sheet to reflect the movements actually performed.
- ▶ Assign a mark to each of the omitted movements, equal to the average of the collective marks entered at the bottom of the sheet (averaged to the nearest whole number, with 0.5 rounded up).
- ▶ Record the penalty for the error of course.

When the rider makes an 'error of the Test' (for example, not taking the reins in one hand at the salute), they must be penalised as if for an 'error of course'. The Judge should place a star against the movement concerned and mark for an error at the bottom of the sheet.

### **k) Penalties for Error of Course or Test**

Every 'error of the course', whether the bell is sounded or not, must be penalised as follows:

- ▶ First Error = 2 marks
- ▶ Second Error = 4 marks
- ▶ Third Error = 8 marks
- ▶ Fourth Error = Elimination

The points deducted are cumulative; after three errors of course, a total of 14 points are deducted.

After the fourth error, the competitor may continue their performance to the end, with marks being awarded in the usual manner.

### **l) Riding the Wrong Test**

A rider who starts the wrong test for the class may be allowed to restart the test (at the Judge's discretion) subject to time at the end of the class. They will be penalised for a first error of course.

### **m) Penalties for Contravening the Rules**

Contravention of the rules will incur elimination. Under certain circumstances, instead of elimination, the following penalties may be deducted

- ▶ Entering the Dressage Arena with a whip (when not permitted) = 6 Penalties per Judge.

The Judge will stop the test and continue it after the whip has been discarded.

- ▶ Entering the Dressage Arena with Horse wearing Boots or Bandages = 6 Penalties per Judge.

The Judge will stop the test and continue it after the boots and bandages have been removed.

- ▶ Minor breaches of the Dress Rules (not wearing gloves, horse wearing a tail bandage) = 2 Penalties per Judge.
- ▶ Entering the Arena before the Judge's signal = 2 Penalties per Judge

### **n) Time**

The approximate time given on each Test Sheet is for guidance only; there are no penalties for exceeding it.

### **o) Lameness**

In the case of marked lameness, the Judge informs the rider that they are

eliminated. There is no appeal against this decision. If there are any doubts as to the soundness of a horse, the competitor will be allowed to complete the test, and any unevenness of pace will be penalised. The competitor will then be referred to the Official Steward.

### **p) Dressage Scoresheets**

Dressage scoresheets may be handed out once the dressage penalties for all competitors in the class have been calculated. It is important that this is done in good time so that any errors can be rectified before prizegiving.

### **q) Scale of Marks**

The scale of marks is as follows:

- ▶ 10 Excellent
- ▶ 9 Very good
- ▶ 8 Good
- ▶ 7 Fairly good
- ▶ 6 Satisfactory
- ▶ 5 Sufficient
- ▶ 4 Insufficient
- ▶ 3 Fairly bad
- ▶ 2 Bad
- ▶ 1 Very bad
- ▶ 0 Not executed\*

\* 'Not executed' means nothing that is required has been performed.

The marks 10 and 0 must be awarded where the performance warrants their use. Half marks are allowed.

### **r) Scoring**

The Judge's 'good marks' (from 0 to 10) are added together, then penalties for any error are deducted to give a final total of 'good marks'.

The percentage of maximum possible good marks available is then calculated. This value is shown as the individual mark for that Judge.

In order to convert the percentage into penalty points, it must be subtracted from 100 with the resulting figure being rounded to one decimal digit. The result is the score in penalty points for the test.

When there is more than one Judge, the resulting totals are then averaged.

## s) Dressage Judges

At **PC110** Area competitions Dressage Judges will be taken from Lists 1 – 5.

At **PC Chairman's Cup** and **PC100** Area Competitions Dressage Judges will be taken from Lists 1 – 6.

At **PC90, PC80 and PC70** Area Competitions Dressage Judges will be taken from Lists 1 – 6, or may be British Eventing Accredited Trainers or riders who have competed at British Dressage Medium or BE Advanced/FEI\*\*\*\* levels and above, and who have had experience of judging at Pony Club. BD Trainee Judges are also acceptable at PC90, PC80 and PC70 Regional level.

## 10. THE SHOW JUMPING PHASE

The maximum dimensions at each Level must NOT be exceeded in either Show Jumping or Cross Country.

SHOW JUMPING	PC70	PC80	PC90	PC100	PC Chairman's Cup	PC110
Max length of course	350m	350m	450m	450m	450m	450m
Speed	300mpm	300mpm	325mpm	325mpm	325mpm	325mpm
Obstacles Max height	0.75m	0.85m	0.95m	1.05m	1.10m	1.15m
Max spread - highest point	0.65m	0.85m	1.05m	1.15m	1.15m	1.25m
Max spread – base	0.90m	1.15m	1.25m	1.35m	1.40m	1.50m

Note: Only one upright and one ascending spread obstacle may be included up to the maximum height. All other obstacles must be 0.05m below maximum height.

The limits on the height and spread of obstacles laid down in the rules must be observed with the greatest of care. However, if it should happen that a maximum dimension has been marginally exceeded as a result of the material used for construction and/or by the position of the obstacle on

the ground, the maximum dimensions laid down will not be considered as having been exceeded, but the permitted tolerance is 5cms maximum in the ring or practice area.

### **a) Course Design**

**PC70, 80 and 90:** It is recommended that the first three obstacles should be inviting to allow horses to gain confidence. Neither water jumps nor water trays are permitted. The course must include only one double combination (at PC70 a two-stride double) and no trebles.

**PC100:** Neither water jumps, nor water trays are permitted. The course must include one double combination and may include a further double but not a treble. There should be one square parallel.

**PC100, PC Chairman's Cup and PC110:** It is recommended that a BS Course Builder's advice is sought on course plans.

**PC Chairman's Cup Championship:** At the Championships the show jumping will be held on the final day in reverse order of placings. There will be a trot up prior to the competition.

**At all Levels:** When the second or third element of a double or treble combination is a spread, the distances must be as for two non-jumping strides.

### **b) The Test**

The test consists of one round of the course, judged under the Rules of The Pony Club Show Jumping, amended where applicable.

There is no jump-off.

### **c) The Warm-Up**

The Course Builder is responsible for ensuring that a minimum of one upright and one spread obstacle is provided in each practice area. If space allows, there should also be a cross pole.

These obstacles are intended for warming up purposes prior to competing.

## Examples of practice showjumping fences that are not allowed



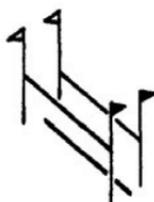
Held by hand



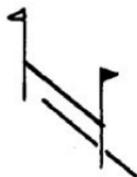
Neither end of cross pole supported by standard cup or fitting



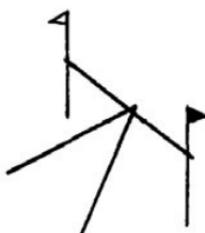
Top end of sloping pole higher than horizontal pole



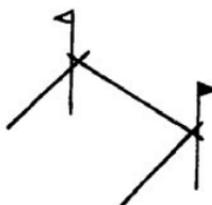
Pole on ground forming false ground line



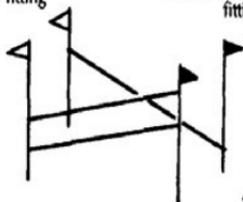
Front element higher than rear element



Neither end of sloping poles is supported by standard cup or fitting



Top end of sloping poles higher than horizontal pole and not supported by standard cup or fitting in the usual manner



Alternate sloping poles, eg. St Andrews Cross

All elements of practice obstacles must be capable of being knocked down in the normal manner and must not be fixed, jammed or positioned in a manner which prevents or hinders them from falling. One pole only may be laid flat on the ground vertically below the front pole or up to 1m (3' 3") before it, parallel to it on the take-off side.

False ground lines are not allowed.

Practice spread obstacles must not be jumped with a front pole higher than the rear pole.

No pole or obstacle of any kind is to be held by hand for a horse to jump.

Practice obstacles are to be jumped in one direction only. The direction in which the obstacle is to be jumped must be indicated with red flag on the right and the white flag on the left.

The height of practice obstacles must not exceed the maximum height of obstacles allowed by the Rules for the competition in progress.

#### **d) The Course**

The course shall consist of no less than 7, nor more than 10 numbered obstacles, at least three of which shall be spreads. A combination must be included. The dimensions for the various levels are given in the table on page 24.

**PC110 Area Competitions:** A water tray may be included in one fence. There will not be an open water.

**PC110 Championships:** When the PC110 Championships is run in conjunction with a BE National or International Event there may be slight modification to both the Show Jumping and Cross-Country dimensions and distances. Please see current BE/FEI Rules.

#### **f) Safety Cups**

Safety Cups are now compulsory for all Pony Club Jumping Competitions on the back rails of spread fences and middle and back rails of triple bars. This includes practice fences in the collecting ring. These cups must be in use at all times and must NOT be removed from the wing stands.

#### **g) Penalties**

- ▶ Knocking down obstacle = 4 penalties
- ▶ First disobedience of horse = 4 penalties
- ▶ Second disobedience of horse in whole course = 8 penalties

- ▶ Third disobedience of horse in whole course = Elimination  
(Each circle or crossing tracks between fences counts as one disobedience)
- ▶ First fall of rider = Elimination
- ▶ Fall of Horse = Elimination
- ▶ Error of course not rectified = Elimination
- ▶ Failure to jump next fence within 60 seconds = Elimination
- ▶ Failure to cross the finish line mounted = Elimination
- ▶ Starting before the Bell – Elimination
- ▶ Every commenced second in excess of Time Allowed = 1 penalty
- ▶ Exceeding the Time Limit (twice the Time Allowed) = Elimination
- ▶ Exceeding 24 penalties (not including time) = Compulsory retirement  
(Enforced at end of round)

At PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup and PC110, competitors incurring more than 24 Show Jumping penalties will not be allowed to go Cross Country.

Competitors at PC70 and PC80 may be allowed to do so only at the discretion of the Official Steward.

At all Levels, competitors eliminated for technical reasons (e.g., starting before the bell or an error of course) may be allowed to go Cross Country at the discretion of the Official Steward.

## **h) Time Penalties**

When an obstacle is displaced as a result of a refusal or fall, a penalty of 6 seconds is applied. The bell is rung, and the clock is stopped immediately. The rider may not continue until the bell is rung a second time. The clock is restarted at the moment the horse takes off or attempts to take off at the obstacle where the refusal occurred. If a refusal occurs at the second or subsequent part of a combination, the clock is restarted when the horse takes off or attempts to take off at the first element of the combination. Time penalties are added to the total time taken to complete the round before calculating any time faults.

## **i) Timing**

If the timing equipment permits, the 45 second count-down may be used according to BS Rules. It should however be explained over the public address before starting and at intervals during the first round.

## **j) Adjustment of Saddlery or Dress, and Outside Assistance**

Jumping or attempting to jump any obstacle or passing through the finish without a hat, or with the chin strap incorrectly fastened incurs elimination unless the Judge decides that the competitor was so far committed to

jumping the obstacle at the moment when the chin strap came undone that the rider could not be expected to pull up before attempting the obstacle.

In the case of adjustment to hat, chin strap, or saddlery becoming necessary during the round, for safety reasons outside assistance may be given.

The clock will NOT be stopped, and faults will be given as for a resistance (ceasing to go forward). If it becomes necessary for the rider to dismount, faults will be given as for a fall, ie. Elimination

### **k) Falls**

A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and quarters on the same side touch the ground or touch the obstacle and the ground simultaneously.

A rider is considered to have fallen when there is separation between them and their horse that necessitates remounting or vaulting into the saddle.

If the fall of horse and/or rider occurs in the warm up area, the rider must be checked by the medical personnel at the event before being allowed to continue.

If the horse falls, the horse must be checked by a vet before being allowed to continue. If a vet is not present the horse must be checked by the Official Steward before being allowed to continue.

### **l) Inspection of the Course**

The course must be ready walking by competitors at least one hour before the commencement of the Show Jumping.

### **m) Plan of the Course**

A plan of the course must be displayed by the time the course is ready for inspection, showing:

- ▶ The course to be followed and its length
- ▶ The Time Allowed and the Time Limit.

### **n) Scoring**

Any jumping and time penalties will be added together to give the competitor's penalty points for this phase.

## 11. THE CROSS COUNTRY PHASE

The maximum dimensions at each Level must NOT be exceeded in either Show Jumping or Cross Country.

**A Technical Advisor (TA) is required for PC70 - PC110 at all Area and Championships events**

CROSS COUNTRY	PC70	PC80	PC90	PC100	PC Chairman's Cup	PC110
<b>Length of course</b>	Up to 1,800m	1600m - 2,500m	1600m - 2,500m*	1800m - 2,800m*	1800m - 3,120m*	2400-3,120m*
<b>Speed</b>	435mpm	435mpm	450mpm	475mpm	500mpm	520mpm
<b>Obstacles</b> No. of Jumping efforts	Up to 25	16-25	18-25*	18-25*	20-27*	20-28*
<b>Max height</b>	0.70m	0.80m	0.90m	1.00m	1.05m	1.10m
<b>With height and spread</b> Max spread - highest point	0.75m	0.90m	1.00m	1.10m	1.20m	1.40m**
<b>With height and spread</b> Max spread - base	1.00m	1.25m	1.50m	1.80m	1.80m	2.10m
<b>With spread only</b> Max spread without height	0.90m	1.25m	1.50m	1.80m	2.20m	2.40m

<b>Drop fences</b> Max drop	0.80m	1.20m	1.30m	1.40m	1.40m	1.60m
<b>Jump into and out of water</b> Max depth of water	0.20m	0.20m	0.20m	0.20m	0.30m	0.30m

\*At the Eventing Championships **for PC90 and above**, the length of the course may be increased to 2,500-3,500m and the number of jumping efforts may be increased to 25-30.

\*\*If building a new spread fence, it is recommended that the overall maximum spread does not exceed 1.25m

At Branch events below PC90, organisers may reduce distances, speeds, heights and number of obstacles.

**Stopwatches may only be worn at PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup and PC110 Levels.**

**No stopwatches may be worn at PC70 and PC80 levels.**

At PC70 there will be no penalties for going too slowly, but reverse time penalties will be applied for going too fast.

**At PC80, there will be time penalties for going too fast or too slow. For every second more than 15 seconds over or under the optimum time, there will be 0.4 penalties.**

\*\*\*PC Chairman's Cup Area Competitions: The XC may be run over the PC100 Course with, where possible, some fences at 105, or additional elements added to increase the technicality. Competitors qualifying direct from their Area Competition are not required to compete a MER at 105.

Please note the PC Chairman's Cup Championship XC will be a 105 course.

### **a) The Course**

The length of the course and number of jumping efforts will vary according to the Level. Please refer to the Table on page 29 for further details.

### **b) Inspection of The Course**

All **Branch and Area Competitions** – The cross-country course must be completed and ready for inspection by competitors, on foot only, by 2pm on

the day preceding the Cross Country Test.

**The Championships** – The Cross-Country course will be ready for inspection by competitors, on foot only, by 2pm on the day preceding the Cross Country Test. The Cross-Country course may be open before this time but competitors must be aware that alterations may still be made.

Unauthorised alteration to or tampering with obstacles, direction flags or stringing and foliage on the course is strictly forbidden and will be penalised by elimination.

**Plan or Map of the Course** - A plan of the course must be displayed by the time it is open for inspection. It must include:

- ▶ The course to be followed and its length
- ▶ The Time Allowed and the Time Limit
- ▶ The numbering of the obstacles
- ▶ Obstacles having 'L' or black line Alternatives
- ▶ Any compulsory turning points
- ▶ Any hazards
- ▶ Modification of the Course

Before the Test Starts – After the course is opened for inspection by competitors at 2pm on the day before the Cross Country Test, no alteration may be made, except that, where exceptional circumstances (such as heavy rain) make one or more obstacles unfair or dangerous, the Official Steward is authorised to reduce the severity of or to by-pass such obstacles.

In such a case the Cross Country Steward and every competitor must be officially and personally informed of the proposed alteration before the start of the Test. An official may be stationed at the place where an alteration has been made, in order to warn the competitors.

During the Test – NO modification to the obstacles is allowed but, if it is necessary in the interests of safety to order an obstacle to be by-passed during the competition, all jumping faults previously incurred at that obstacle shall be cancelled with the exception of eliminations.

A time allowance may be made at the discretion of the Official Steward. A competitor who has been eliminated shall NOT be re-instated in the competition. Once taken out, the obstacle shall NOT be re-introduced.

### **c) Marking the Course**

**Boundary Flags** – Red and white boundary flags or indicators are used to mark the start and finish and compulsory sections of the course, to define

obstacles and to indicate compulsory changes of direction. They are placed in such a way that a rider must leave a red flag on their right and a white flag on their left. Such red or white flags or indicators must be respected, under penalty of elimination, wherever they may occur on the course, whether singly or in pairs. Only obstacles which are numbered and marked by two boundary flags are judged as obstacles. All boundary and turning flags must be in position prior to 2pm on the day preceding the Cross-Country phase.

All fences immediately adjacent to those that are included in the course should be crossed flagged to ensure the safety of Members and Spectators.

Direction Markers (Yellow or Orange) are placed so as to mark the route and help the rider in keeping to the course. They may be passed on either side and keeping close to them is not necessary. Boundary flags and direction markers shall be large and placed in conspicuous positions. Compulsory Turning Flags may be used only if absolutely necessary and will have the Red Flag on the right and the White on the left. They should be marked on the Plan of the Course.

Black Line Flags (a black line on red and white boundary flags) are used to show that an obstacle, either single or made up of several elements, has an alternative route which may be jumped without penalty. Both sets of flags will be marked with a black line. A competitor is permitted to change without penalty from one black line flagged route to another (e.g. jumping 9A left hand route then 9B right hand route) provided they have not presented their horse at the next element of the original line. After having negotiated all other elements, passing around the last element to be jumped will not be penalised.

The use of 'L' fence alternatives at PC110 and Chairman's Cup is not encouraged at Area Competitions and the Championships, with instead more appropriate use of Black Flag / Long Route alternatives. Black flag alternatives should be sufficient in length to affect the time.

At PC70, PC80 and PC90 level "L" fences can be used to ensure that the course is of sufficient standard as an Area/Championship Test, while enabling the less experienced to complete their rounds.

'L' markers are used to denote an easier alternative to the 'Main' obstacle, to help the less experienced to complete the Cross-Country phase. All 'L' obstacles will be marked with red and white boundary flags and with a marker having a red 'L' on a white background beneath the fence number. Jumping an 'L' fence incurs 15 penalties. See Rule 11 o) Alternative 'L' Obstacles.

## **d) Starting**

At Area Competitions and the Championships, competitors must start from within a simple enclosure erected at the start and made of wooden posts and wooden or plastic rails measuring approximately 5m (16ft) square, with an open front marked with a red and a white flag. If this enclosure has an entrance at the side, this must be approximately 2m wide and should be padded or constructed in such a way that neither horse nor rider entering through the side can be injured. At Branch events red and white boundary flags on their own may be used at the discretion of the Organiser. A competitor may only start when given the signal to do so by the starter. The starter will count down from five before giving the signal to start and the competitor may move around the enclosure as the rider pleases. A competitor who starts early will have their time recorded from the moment the rider starts.

Deliberately starting early or cantering through the start may incur elimination at the discretion of the Official Steward. If the horse fails to cross the start line within 2 minutes of the signal being given, the competitor is eliminated. Assistance within the starting enclosure is permitted, provided it ceases immediately the signal to start is given. From that instant, the competitor is considered to be on the course and any subsequent assistance is forbidden.

If a horse is lead into the start box, the handler must wear protective headgear and gloves. Slip leads should be used, not metal clips.

## **e) Timekeeping**

Time is counted from the signal to start until the instant when the horse's nose passes the finishing post. It is counted in whole seconds, fractions being taken to the next second above, e.g. 30.2 seconds is recorded as 31 seconds. When it is necessary for an official to stop a competitor on the course while an obstacle is being repaired or because of an accident, the period during which a competitor is held up will be recorded by the Fence Judge and deducted from their overall time to give their correct time for completing the course.

## **f) Speed and Pace**

Throughout the event, competitors are free to choose the pace at which they ride. They should, however, always take account of the requirements of each phase, the prevailing conditions and terrain, the fitness and ability of themselves and their horse and all other factors which may be relevant to the welfare of both Horse and rider. On the cross-country course, they must also have regard to and respect the class speed, the optimum and 'too fast'

times.

## **g) Penalties**

- ▶ First refusal, run out or circle of horse at obstacle = 20 penalties
- ▶ Second refusal, run out or circle at same obstacle = 40 penalties
- ▶ Third refusal, run out or circle at same obstacle = Elimination
- ▶ Jumping the Alternative 'L' Obstacle = 15 penalties

(The above penalty points are cumulative)

- ▶ Four refusals around the course\* = Elimination
- ▶ In PC110 three refusals around the course = Elimination
- ▶ Fall of horse = Elimination
- ▶ Fall of rider anywhere on the course = Elimination
- ▶ Error of Course not rectified = Elimination
- ▶ Omission of obstacle or boundary flag = Elimination
- ▶ Horse trapped in obstacle = Elimination
- ▶ Jumping obstacle in wrong order = Elimination
- ▶ Re-taking, in whatever direction, an obstacle already jumped = Elimination
- ▶ Jumping fence marked with crossed flags = Elimination
- ▶ Horse resisting rider for 2 consecutive minutes anywhere on the course, including after being given the signal to start = Elimination
- ▶ Every commenced period of 1 sec in excess of the Optimum Time (PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup and PC 110) = 0.4 penalties
- ▶ For every second in excess of 15 seconds under the Optimum Time (PC70, PC80, PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup and PC 110) = 0.4 penalties
- ▶ **At PC80 ONLY, for every second in excess of 15 seconds over the Optimum Time = 0.4 penalties**
- ▶ Exceeding the Time Limit (twice the Optimum Time) = Elimination
- ▶ Deliberately slowing down near the end of the course including weaving and/or trotting = 5 penalties
- ▶ Continuing the course without a hat, or with chinstrap undone = Elimination

A competitor who deliberately starts before the Starter's signal or who canters through the Start will be subject to Discretionary Elimination by the Official Steward.

## **h) Definition of Faults**

Faults (refusals, run-outs, circling and falls) will be penalised only if, in the opinion of the Fence Judge concerned, they are connected with the

negotiation or attempted negotiation of a numbered or lettered obstacle. Penalties incurred at an obstacle are cumulative (i.e. two refusals incurs 20 + 40 = 60 penalties).

**Refusal** – At obstacles or elements exceeding 30cms in height: A horse is considered to have refused if it stops in front of the obstacle or element to be jumped. If a horse then jumps from a standstill this is considered a refusal and incurs 20 penalties. After a refusal, if the competitor redoubles or changes their efforts without success, or if the horse is re-presented at the obstacle and stops or steps back again, this is a second refusal (40 penalties). A third refusal at the same obstacle incurs elimination.

**Refusal** – At all other obstacles or elements less than 30cm in height: A horse is considered to have refused if it stops in front of the obstacle or element to be jumped. A stop followed immediately by a standing jump is not penalised, but if the halt is sustained or in any way prolonged, this constitutes a refusal. The horse may step sideways but if the rider steps back with even one foot, this is a refusal. After a refusal, if the competitor redoubles or changes their efforts without success, or if the horse is re-presented at the obstacle after stepping back and stops or steps back again, this is a second refusal and so on.

**Run-out** – A horse is considered to have run out if it avoids an obstacle to be jumped and runs out to one side or the other. A horse will be considered to have cleared a fence when the head, neck and both shoulders of the horse pass between the extremities of the element or obstacle as flagged.

**Circle** – A horse is considered to have circled if it crosses its original track from whichever direction while negotiating or attempting to negotiate the obstacle, or any part thereof. If after completing the negotiation of all elements of an obstacle, a horse's exit track from that obstacle crosses its approach track to that obstacle, the horse is not considered to have circled, and will not be penalised.

If a horse completes a circle while being re-presented at the obstacle after a refusal, run-out or fall, it is penalised only for the refusal, run-out or fall. A competitor may circle without penalty between two separately numbered obstacles even if they are quite close together, provided they clearly do not present their horse in an attempt to negotiate the second obstacle after jumping the first. However, if two or more elements of an obstacle are lettered A, B or C, (i.e. are designed as one integral test) any circling between these elements will be penalised. Except, at an obstacle where any of the elements is black flagged, after having negotiated all other elements passing around the last element to be jumped will not be penalised.

**Fall of Rider** – A rider is considered to have fallen when the rider is separated from their horse in such a way as to necessitate remounting or vaulting into the saddle.

**Fall of Horse** – A horse is considered to have fallen when the shoulder and quarters at the same time have touched either the ground or the obstacle and the ground, or when it is trapped in a fence in such a way that it is unable to proceed without assistance or is liable to injure itself.

**Knocking down a fence flag** – There is no penalty for knocking down a fence (boundary) flag. But if in the process the horse's head and shoulders pass the wrong side of the flag, i.e. to the left of the white or to the right of the red, the competitor must retake the fence and shall be debited the penalties for the run-out(s). Competitors may ask if they have to re-take the fence, and the Fence Judge is obliged to tell them. This is not considered 'forbidden assistance'. Flags do not have to be replaced by Fence Judges, but riders may request that flags are replaced. The time will not be stopped for competitors during replacement of a flag.

There is no penalty for jumping a fence not on the course but the penalty for jumping a fence marked with crossed flags is elimination.

### **i) Overtaking**

Any competitor who is about to be overtaken by a following competitor must quickly clear the way. Any competitor overtaking another competitor must do so only at a safe and suitable place. When the leading competitor is before an obstacle and about to be overtaken, they must follow the directions of the Fence Judge.

When the leading competitor is committed to jumping an obstacle, the following competitor may only jump that obstacle in such a way that will cause no inconvenience or danger for either.

The penalty for wilful obstruction of an overtaking competitor, or failure to follow the instructions of the Fence Judge, or causing danger to another competitor, is elimination at the discretion of the Official Steward

### **j) Stopping Competitors**

If any part of an obstacle is obstructed by a competitor in difficulty, or if any obstacle has been dismantled to release a fallen horse, or if an obstacle has been broken and is not yet rebuilt, or in any other similar circumstances, any competitor approaching the jump, and any subsequent competitors, must be prepared to stop on the instructions of the Fence Judge, who will wave a flag at waist height in the path of the oncoming competitor. The

time during which the competitor is stopped will be noted by the Fence Judge and will be deducted from the time taken to give the correct time for completing the course.

Failure to stop is penalised by disqualification at the discretion of the Official Steward.

### **k) Forbidden Assistance**

Outside assistance is forbidden under penalty of elimination. Any intervention by a third party, whether solicited or not, with the object of facilitating the task of the competitor or of helping their horse, is considered forbidden assistance. If, in the opinion of the Official Steward, the assistance was unsolicited, and the competitor gained no advantage then no penalty will apply.

In particular the following are forbidden:

- ▶ to intentionally join another competitor and to continue the course in company with them.
- ▶ to post friends at certain points to call directions or make signals in passing.
- ▶ for anyone at an obstacle actively to encourage the horse or rider by any means whatsoever.
- ▶ to be followed, preceded or accompanied on any part of the course by any other person
- ▶ to receive any information, by any means whatsoever, about the course before it is officially open to the competitors.
- ▶ for a fence Judge or official to call back or assist a competitor by directions to rectify an error of course.

**EXCEPTIONS:** Whips, headgear or spectacles may be handed to a competitor without them dismounting. Fence Judges are allowed to call 1st Refusal, 2nd Refusal etc.

### **l) Elimination and Retiring**

Competitors eliminated or retiring from any part of the Cross-Country course for any reason whatsoever must leave the course at a walk and take every precaution to avoid disturbing other competitors. They may not jump any obstacles after elimination or retiring.

## m) Obstacles

Obstacles must be solid, fixed and imposing. Where natural obstacles are used, they must be reinforced if necessary, so that they present, as far as possible, the same problem throughout the competition.

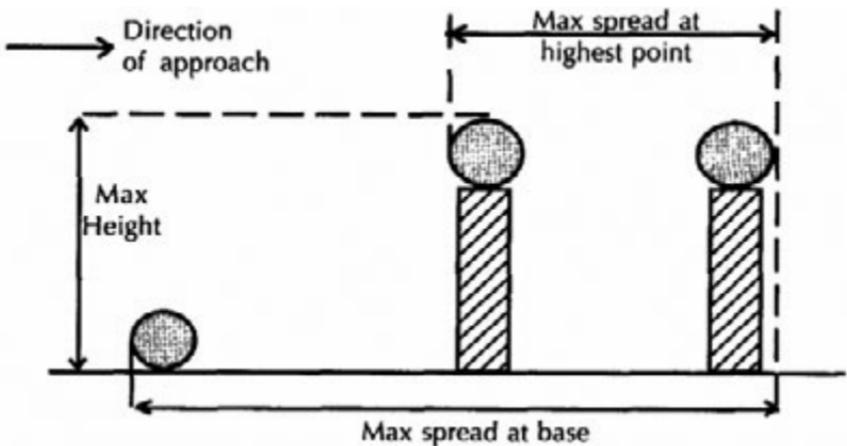
Obstacles will be numbered and flagged and must be jumped in numerical and/or alphabetical order. For Area and Championship level courses number colours must be in line with BE (or EI) colours:

- ▶ PC70 – Green
- ▶ BE80/PC80 – Purple
- ▶ BE90/PC90 – Orange
- ▶ BE100/PC100, PC Chairman's Cup – Pink or for PC Chairman's Cup Black if adding additional elements to the PC100 course; Yellow may be used if no PC110 class.
- ▶ BE Novice/PC110 – Yellow

Obstacles should be designed within the limits of the different Levels to prepare competitors for the Championships, using 'L' Fences or Black Line alternatives to avoid eliminating the less experienced.

All obstacles must be sited so that a vehicle can get to them to evacuate casualties.

All portable fences must be securely fixed with appropriate fixings to ensure the fence cannot move if hit by a horse.



## **n) Dimensions**

Obstacles are measured from the point from which the average horse would normally take off.

When measuring the height of an obstacle it does not mean that obstacles must always be of uniform height or spread throughout their length, or that these dimensions may never be exceeded anywhere between the Red and White flags marking the extent of an obstacle. It is sufficient if that part of the obstacle, where the average horse and rider could reasonably and conveniently be expected to jump, does not exceed the maximum permitted dimensions.

Obstacles with spread only (stream, ditch, etc) must not exceed the dimensions given in the Table on page 29. A low rail or hedge,

provided that it merely facilitates the jumping of the obstacle is not considered to give height to this type of obstacle.

Obstacles with both height and spread (oxer, open ditch, etc.) are measured both at the base from the outside of the relevant rails or other material making up the obstacle, and at the top from the outside of the relevant rails or other material making up the highest points (see diagram). The spread of an obstacle at its top is measured from both the outside of the relevant rails or other material making up the obstacle and the highest points.

In the case of an obstacle where the height cannot be clearly defined (natural hedge, brush fence) the measurement is taken to the fixed and solid part of the obstacle through which a horse cannot pass with impunity and which must be visible from the front. The overall height of a natural hedge or brush fence may not exceed the maximum height by more than 20cm.

Poles used for timber obstacles must be not less than 10cm in diameter at their narrower end.

In PC Chairman's Cup competitions it is permitted to add additional cross-country elements or fences to the PC100 course provided these abide by the dimensions given in Rule 11.

## **o) Alternative 'L' Obstacles**

The primary purpose of alternative 'L' Obstacles is to enable the course-builder to build a course at the right standard but which the less experienced competitor can complete. 'L' Signs are used as they are easily obtainable.

At Area Competitions and Branch Events 'L' obstacles will be provided as alternatives to some of the more difficult 'Main' obstacles and will be separate from them. 'L' fences and Black Line flags will be used at both Area Competitions and the Championships. See Rule 11 c) Marking the Course.

An 'L' Obstacle may be an alternative to either a single or a multiple 'main' obstacle but need not have the same number of elements.

In a multiple obstacle, after jumping one or more elements of the 'Main' obstacle, a competitor may change to the 'L' element of the alternative obstacle that is next in sequence and vice versa.

It is NOT necessary for a competitor to go back and jump any of the 'L' elements of an obstacle when the rider has already jumped the corresponding 'Main' elements, but the rider is at liberty to do so if the rider wishes in accordance with Rule 11 s) Combination Fences.

### **p) Marking**

'L' Obstacles and all 'L' Elements in a multiple obstacle will be marked with Red and White boundary flags, and with a marker having a red 'L' on a white background beneath the fence number.

Each 'L' Obstacle will also be marked with the same number as the corresponding 'Main' obstacle. In the case of a multiple obstacle, each 'L' element will have the same letter as the corresponding element of the 'Main' obstacle. However, when the 'L' obstacle has fewer elements than the 'Main' obstacle, its last element will be marked with all the remaining corresponding letters.

### **q) Penalties**

Jumping (as opposed to attempting) an 'L' obstacle or any part of it will incur 15 penalties only (regardless of the number of elements) in addition to any penalties for Refusals, Falls, etc.

Penalties incurred at the 'Main' obstacle and those at its alternative 'L' obstacle are cumulative. THREE refusals entail elimination.

### **r) Adjacent Obstacles**

If two or more obstacles, although sited close together, are designed as separate problems, each will be numbered and judged independently. A competitor may circle between them without penalty, provided that this is not as a result of attempting to negotiate the next obstacle. He must not, under penalty of elimination, retake any obstacle that the rider has already jumped.

## s) Combination Fences

If an obstacle is formed of several elements, each part will be flagged and marked with a different letter (A, B, C, etc) but only the first element will be numbered and all elements will be judged as one obstacle. They must be jumped in the correct sequence. A competitor who circles between two lettered elements incurs penalties. They may refuse, run out or circle only twice in all without incurring elimination. The third refusal within the obstacle as a whole eliminates. If a competitor refuses the rider is permitted to retake any elements already jumped, although the rider will be penalised for any new fault even if the rider has previously jumped an element successfully. They may pass the wrong way through the flags of any element without penalty in order to retake an element.

Banks on to the top of which a horse is intended to jump may not exceed the maximum height for the relevant Level given in the Table on Page 29. If the slope is sufficient to allow a horse to land on the face of it and scramble up, there is no limit to the height or spread.

**Bounces** – Double bounces are NOT allowed, except at steps. Single bounces, if included, must have an easier alternative that may or may not be an 'L'. If there is an alternative route, as opposed to an 'L' option, both sets of flags must be marked with a black line. (See Rule 11 c).

**Judging of bounce obstacles** - At any obstacle where the distance between elements is 5 metres or less (i.e., a bounce) when a horse has negotiated the first element without penalty, it will be deemed to have been presented at the second element – and similarly if the bounce is for example the second and third elements of a combination. Thus, if a rider changes their mind while negotiating the first element of a bounce, and for example, then goes a longer route, the rider will still be penalised 20 penalties for a run-out.

**Bullfinches** are allowed, if it is possible to maintain them to the same standard throughout the day.

**Drops** should be measured from the highest point of the obstacle to where the average horse would normally land.

**Open Ditches** (i.e. ditches on the take-off side of the fence) must be clearly defined. If they have no guard rail they should be riveted on the take-off side.

## t) Water Obstacles

At PC 110 and PC Chairman's Cup, water obstacles which require a horse to

jump over a fence into water may be included provided there is a black flag alternative obstacle, and the underwater surface is sound.

At PC70, PC80, PC90, and PC100, if there is no alternative, the entrance into the water must be a gradual slope with no fence or vertical drop involved.

In both cases the water must be at least 6m wide to ensure that a bold horse does not attempt to jump it and not deeper than 20cm for PC70, PC80, PC90, PC100 and PC Chairman's Cup and 30cm for PC110 measured at the point at which the average horse would land. Likewise, the water must not exceed this depth at the point where the average horse would take off. Elsewhere the water should not greatly exceed the maximum depth

At PC90 and PC100, if there is a fence to be jumped in water an alternative should be provided

There should be no jump in the water at PC70 and PC80 level.

#### **u) Hazards**

Certain natural features such as ditches and 'drops' which, although not regarded as obstacles and therefore not numbered, might cause some horses to refuse may be classified as hazards. Their dimensions must not exceed the maximum allowed for other obstacles. Refusals, run-outs and circles and falls are not penalised at hazards. The only penalty is elimination if the horse resists its rider for 2 consecutive minutes.

Riders may not dismount and lead through or over a hazard on penalty of elimination.

#### **v) Practice Fence**

There will be a simple practice fence for warming up near the start, marked with red and white flags, which must be jumped with the red flag on the right. Only fences that are marked with red and white flags may be jumped in the warm-up area. Practice fences must not exceed the maximum dimensions allowed for the class.

#### **w) Emergency Flags**

Any flag being waved at waist height in the path of an oncoming competitor means that the competitor must stop.

## **12. SCORING AND CLASSIFICATION**

The competition is scored on a penalty basis.

## **a) Individuals**

The penalties incurred by a competitor in each of the three phases are added together to give a final score for the whole competition and the competitor with the least points being the winner. A competitor disqualified or eliminated in one phase is eliminated from the whole competition.

## **b) Teams**

Only the lowest three scores of each Team are counted, but at least three members must complete the competition. These scores are added together to give the Team's final score. The Team with the least penalties is the winner. If fewer than three members of a team complete the competition, there is no team score.

## **13. ORDER OF STARTING**

The order of starting shall be drawn after entries have been received. This order shall be maintained throughout each part of the competition. The timetable should be regarded as a guide only and competitors who are not ready to start any phase in their turn may be eliminated.

## **14. INTERVAL BETWEEN PHASES**

No horse shall be required to start the next phase less than 30 minutes after completing the previous phase.

## **15. EQUALITY**

In the event of tied penalty scores across the three phases, classification is determined first by the Cross-Country score, with the competitor having the lowest total of jumping and/or time penalties taking precedence.

For PC80, PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup, and PC110, if there is still a tie, the competitor whose Cross-Country time is closest to the optimum time will take precedence.

If ties persist, the best show jumping score (including penalties at obstacles and time penalties) will be considered, followed by the best Dressage score.

If scores remain equal after all criteria, the result is a tie, and all tied competitors qualify.

For teams, if two or more Teams have equal scores in a qualifying position for the Championships, all teams will qualify.

At PC70, if the lowest total of Cross-Country jumping penalties is equal

with no time penalties, the Show Jumping and Dressage scores will be the deciding factors.

## **16. PROTESTS OR OBJECTIONS**

All queries regarding a competitor's score must be directed to the Secretary's Office. Competitors must not approach judges, timekeepers, fence judges, or other officials.

Protests or objections must be submitted in writing to the Official Steward or, at Championships, to the Secretary. Only District Commissioners or their Appointed Representatives may lodge protests at Area Competitions and Championships. Protests must include a deposit of £10 for Branch Competitions and £50 for Area Competitions and Championships, refundable only if the Official Steward or Jury of Appeal finds valid grounds for the protest.

Protests or objections to scores must be made no later than half an hour after all the provisional scores have been released.

At Branch competitions, the Official Steward's decision is final. At Area Competitions and Championships, if the Official Steward's decision is contested, the Jury of Appeal will investigate, and their decision will be final.

If a breach of eligibility is discovered, the Eventing Committee may disqualify the ineligible team or individual. If an individual from a qualifying team is disqualified, the team will also be disqualified unless the qualification stands using the discarded score.

Scores published during an event on a live scoring system are provisional until confirmed by the Official Steward. Competitors should check their dressage sheets and review results, provisional or final, as soon as possible after each phase.

## **17. JURY OF APPEAL**

The following people constitute the Jury of Appeal:

- ▶ The Official Steward or Assistant Official Steward
- ▶ A Dressage Judge
- ▶ The Chief Show Jumping Judge
- ▶ The Cross Country Steward
- ▶ Any member of The Pony Club Eventing Committee present.

The Official Steward may appoint a replacement for any member of the Jury if the need arises. Any three members from the above shall form a quorum.

At the Championships the Jury of Appeal shall consist of those members of The Pony Club Eventing Committee who are present, and three of whom shall form a quorum.

At both the Area Competitions and the Championships, at least three members of the Jury of Appeal must remain on the ground until half an hour after the scores have been published.

## **18. AGE AND HEIGHT OF HORSES**

**Horses must be 5 years of age or over to participate in Pony Club Events.**

**In their first eligible year, they must be at least 60 months old to compete. Their next birthday will be on 1st January thereafter.**

**e.g. A horse born on 1st August 2020 is 5 years of age on 1st August 2025. From this date, they may then attend pony club events. They will be deemed 6 years of age on 1st January 2026.**

There are no height restrictions.

## **19. DRESS**

It is the competitors' responsibility to ensure that their dress is in accordance with the rules. Contravention may incur elimination. Apart from XC colours and silks, brightly coloured accessories must not be worn.

**a) The following rules apply to ALL THREE PHASES:**

**i. Hats** - Members must always wear a protective hat when mounted. Only hats to the following specifications are acceptable at any Pony Club activity. The Pony Club is consistent with fellow BEF (British Equestrian) Member bodies in its Standards for Riding Hats. Individual sports may have additional requirements with regard to colour and type. It is strongly recommended that secondhand hats are not purchased.

**The hat standards accepted as of 1st January 2026 are detailed in the table below:**

Hat Standard	Safety Mark
Snell E2016 & 2021 with the official Snell label and number	
PAS 015: 2011 with BSI Kitemark or Inspec IC Mark	
(BS) EN 1384:2023 with BSI Kitemark or Inspec IC Mark	
VG1 with BSI Kitemark or Inspec IC Mark	
ASTM-F1163 2015 & 2023 with the SEI mark	
AS/NZS 3838, 2006 with SAI Global Mark	

Note: Some hats are dual-badged with different standards. If a hat contains at least one compliant hat standard it is deemed suitable to competition, even if it is additionally labelled with an older standard.

- ▶ For cross-country riding (at all levels) including Eventing, Arena Eventing, Tetrathlon and Hunter Trials, together with Pony Racing (whether it be tests, rallies, competition or training) and Mounted Games competitions, a jockey skull cap must be worn with no fixed peak, peak type extensions or noticeable protuberances above the eyes or to the front, and should have an even round or elliptical shape with a smooth or slightly abrasive surface, having no peak or peak type extensions. Noticeable protuberances above the eyes or to the front not greater than 5mm, smooth and rounded in nature are permitted. A removable hat cover with a light flexible peak may be used if required.
- ▶ No recording device is permitted (e.g. hat cameras) as they may have a negative effect on the performance of the hat in the event of a fall.
- ▶ The fit of the hat and the adjustment of the harness are as crucial as

the quality. Members are advised to try several makes to find the best fit. The hat should not move on the head when the head is tipped forward. The Pony Club recommends you visit a qualified BETA (British Equestrian Trade Association) fitter.

- ▶ Hats must be replaced after a severe impact as subsequent protection will be significantly reduced. Hats deteriorate with age and should be replaced after three to five years depending upon the amount of use.
- ▶ Hats must be worn at all times (including at prize-giving) when mounted with a chinstrap fastened and adjusted so as to prevent movement of the hat in the event of a fall.
- ▶ For Show Jumping: hat covers, if applicable, shall be dark blue, black or brown only. Branch/Centre team colours are permitted for team competitions. There should be no additions to the hat cover e.g. pom poms.
- ▶ For Dressage: hats and hat covers must be predominately black, navy blue or a conservative dark colour that matches the rider's jacket for Area competitions or above. The Pony Club Hat silk is also acceptable.
- ▶ The Official Steward / Organiser may, at their discretion, eliminate a competitor riding in the area of the competition without a hat or with the chinstrap unfastened or with a hat that does not comply with these standards.

### **Hat Checks and Tagging**

The Pony Club and its Branches and Centres will appoint Officials, who are familiar with The Pony Club hat rule, to carry out hat checks and tag each hat that complies with the requirements set out in the hat rule with an Pony Club hat tag. Hats fitted with a Pony Club, British Eventing (BE) or British Riding Club (BRC) hat tag will not need to be checked on subsequent occasions. However, the Pony Club reserves the right to randomly spot check any hat regardless of whether it is already tagged.

**Tagging is an external verification of the internal label and indicates that a hat meets the accepted standards. The tag does NOT imply any check of the fit and condition of the hat has been undertaken.** It is considered to be the responsibility of the Member's parent(s) / guardian(s) to ensure that their hat complies with the required standards and is tagged before they go to any Pony Club event. Also, they are responsible for ensuring that the manufacturer's guidelines with regard to fit and replacement are followed.

For further information on hat standards, testing and fitting, please refer to the British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA) website: [British Equestrian Trade Association - Safety and your head \(beta-uk.org\)](http://beta-uk.org)

**ii. Hair** - Must be tied up and back (preferably in a hairnet) and securely, in a safe manner to reduce the risk of hair being caught and to prevent scalp injuries.

**iii. Jackets (Dressage and Show Jumping only)** – A traditional style of riding jacket must be worn with a Pony Club Tie or hunting stock. It is permitted to wear a Pony Club stock with any jacket. Jackets may be removed during riding in, provided the competitor is wearing a shirt that at a minimum covers the shoulders. During hot weather the Judges may give permission for competitors to ride without jackets, but shirts must cover the shoulders. Shirts should be white or cream. Number bibs should be worn for all three phases. The metal membership badge should be worn on the left lapel of the jacket. Tailcoats may be worn for the Dressage phase at the PC110 Championships and the Chairman's Cup.

**iv. Gloves** – Gloves are compulsory for the Dressage phase and optional for Show Jumping and Cross Country.

**v. Breeches** – Please see the individual phase rules. If worn, branding must be on the left leg and not be longer than 20cms or wider than 4cm.

**vi. Footwear** – Only standard riding or jodhpur boots with a well-defined square cut heel may be worn. Plain black or brown half chaps may be worn with jodhpur boots of the same colour. Tassels and fringes are not allowed. No other footwear will be permitted, including wellington boots, yard boots, country boots, “muckers” or trainers. Boots with interlocking treads are not permitted, nor are the boots or treads individually.

Stirrups should be of the correct size to suit the rider's boots (see the Stirrup rule). Laces on boots must be taped for Mounted Games only.

**vii. Spurs** – may not be worn by a Pony Club member at a Pony Club activity or event unless that member has passed either the Pony Club C+ Riding Test or the Pony Club Spurs Test. **The competitor's hat must bear the Yellow Hat Tag to indicate eligibility to wear spurs.** Any misuse of spurs will be reported to the DC/Centre Proprietor, Area Representative and Training Chairman; any reported riders will be recorded and monitored.

Sharp spurs are not permitted. Only blunt spurs, without rowels or sharp edges, and spurs that have a smooth rotating ball on the shank may be worn. If the spurs are curved, the curve must be downwards, and the shank must point straight to the back. The Pony Club recommends a spurs length

of no greater than 2.5cm - the measurement is taken from the back of the boot to the end of the shank. No spurs with a length greater than 4cm are permitted.

### viii. Body Protector

A body protector is compulsory for all Pony Club Cross Country riding (including Arena Eventing) and Pony Racing activities whether it be training or competition. A body protector for these activities must meet BETA 2018 Level 3 Standard (blue and black label). Air Jackets

For general use, the responsibility for choosing body protectors and the decision as to their use must rest with Members and their parents. It is recommended that a rider's body protector should not be more than 2% of their body weight. When worn, body protectors must fit correctly, be comfortable and must not restrict movement. BETA recommends body protectors are replaced at least every three to five years, after which the impact absorption properties of the foam may have started to decline.



### ix. Air Jackets

If a rider chooses to wear an air jacket in Cross country or Pony Racing, it must only be used in addition with a normal body protector which meets BETA 2018 Level 3 standard (blue and black label). Parents and Members must be aware that riders may be permitted to continue after a fall in both competitions and training rides for Cross Country and / or Pony Racing if the First Aid provider has no concerns about their welfare. In the event of a fall, an air jacket must be fully deflated or removed before continuing, the conventional body protector must continue to be worn. Air jackets must not be worn under a jacket. Number bibs should be fitted over the air jacket loosely or with elasticised fastenings.

**x. Medical Armbands** – It is the competitor's responsibility to wear a PC/ BE medical armband during the cross-country phase if they have a medical condition that may impact on their care in the case of an emergency. Conditions that are relevant includes serious past injuries/surgery, chronic health problems such as diabetes, long term medications and allergies. If in doubt competitors should consult with their own treating physician. Cards must contain the competitor's details where indicated and must be worn on the competitor's arm or shoulder in such a way as to be visible at all times. It is not compulsory for competitors without any medical conditions to wear a medical armband.

## **xi. Jewellery**

**Wearing jewellery while handling or riding a horse or pony is not recommended.** To reduce the chance of injury, **necklaces, bracelets** (except medical bracelets), and **large or dangling jewellery (including items attached to piercings)** must be removed. The following are allowed: a wristwatch, a wedding ring, a stock pin worn horizontally, and a tie clip. For cross-country, it is advised to remove stock pins. If a Member chooses to wear any other type of jewellery at a Pony Club event, it is at their own, or their parent/guardian's risk.country.

**xii. Buttonholes** may not be worn.

## **xiii. Prize giving**

Competitors must be correctly dressed in their competition riding clothes (jackets etc) for prize-givings, either mounted or dismounted. Only saddlery that falls within the rules of the competition will be allowed.

## **xiv. Collecting ring / Course walking**

Whilst dismounted in the collecting area, or course walking (both Show Jumping or Cross Country) Competitors must be tidily dressed but not necessarily in riding clothes.

## **xv. Electronic Devices**

Electronic devices (i.e. headphones, mobile phones etc. enabling another person to communicate with the rider) are not allowed whilst the rider is competing.

No recording device is permitted (e.g., head/bridle cameras etc.)

### **b) DRESSAGE only**

**i. Whips** – A whip with a maximum length of 102cm (measured up to the tassel) may be carried at PC70 and PC80, but no whips are allowed at PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup and PC110.

**ii. Gloves** - Must be worn.

**iii. Jodhpurs/Breeches** – should predominately be of a solid, single colour. Dark-coloured contrast seats are permitted. Striped or bold patterned breeches or jodhpurs are not permitted. However, white, cream or beige (with or without dark-coloured contrast seats) are preferred for all Area, Regional and Championship Competitions.

## c) SHOW JUMPING and CROSS-COUNTRY only

**i. Whips** – Riders may not use their whip before the start of the course and may be eliminated for doing so at the Judge's discretion.

A whip, if carried, must be held in the hand by the handle with the handle at the top. The whip must be "padded" and comply with the current British Showjumping rule (full wording is available to view online at [www.britishshowjumping.co.uk](http://www.britishshowjumping.co.uk)).

The key points of that rule are as follows:

- ▶ The maximum length of the "whip" is 70cm and must be no less than 45cm.
- ▶ The "contact area", is considered to be 2/5's (two fifths) of the overall length of the "whip" and must be covered with a "pad".
- ▶ There must be no "binding" within 17cm of the end of the "pad".
- ▶ The "pad" must be smooth, with no protrusion or raised surface, and be made of shock absorbing material throughout its circumference such that it gives a compression factor of at least 6mm.
- ▶ There is to be no wording, advertising or personalisation of any kind on the "pad".

Before buying any whip, please check with the retailer that it is BS compliant. Carrying a whip (anywhere on the show ground) which does not meet with the specification above will result in elimination at the Judge's discretion.

At all times, the whip must only be used:

- ▶ For a good reason, as an aid to encourage the horse forward.
- ▶ At an appropriate time, namely when the horse is reluctant to go forward under normal aids of seat and legs.
- ▶ In the right place, namely down the shoulder or behind the leg but never overarm.
- ▶ Maximum of three times after entering the arena. For the purposes of this rule, use of the whip is defined as when the rider takes his/her hand off the reins to use the whip.
- ▶ Repeated slapping down the shoulder is discouraged and may result in disqualification.

Excessive use of the whip anywhere at the event will result in elimination of the rider from any competition which has already taken place and disqualification of the rider from competing for the rest of the day. The following are always considered excessive and will result in immediate elimination:

- ▶ Use of the whip to vent a competitor's anger.
- ▶ Use of a whip which causes injury e.g. Broken skin or a weal.
- ▶ Use after elimination or retirement.
- ▶ Use on a horse's head, neck etc.
- ▶ Using the whip from the ground after a rider fall or dismount.
- ▶ If the rider's arm comes above the shoulder when using the whip

**ii. Jodhpurs/Breeches** – white, cream, beige, dark or muted colours may be worn. Dark-coloured contrast seats are permitted.

#### **d) CROSS-COUNTRY only**

**i. Body Protectors** are compulsory for training and competing.

**ii. A self-tied stock** is strongly recommended.

**iii.** As a minimum shoulders must be covered while competing.

## **20. SADDLERY**

It is the competitors' responsibility to ensure that their tack is in accordance with the rules and that they present themselves for inspection. Any competitor who presents to compete in the wrong saddlery/equipment will not be allowed to compete until they decide to re-present in the correct saddlery/equipment.

Any competitor who then changes their tack in any discipline after the Tack Inspection will be disqualified from the competition.

The Official Steward has absolute discretion to forbid the use of any bit, gadget, spur or boot which he considers cruel or misused.

Any misuse of any saddlery or other equipment will be reported to the DC/ Centre Proprietor, Area Representative and Training Chairman. Any reported riders will be recorded and monitored.

Any equipment not covered in these rules must be referred at least two weeks in advance of the competition to The Pony Club Office to allow time for the Chairman of the Eventing Committee to be consulted. All tack must be correctly fitted. Disabled riders are welcome to apply to The Pony Club Office to use special equipment.

Any unusual decoration of the horse with unnatural things, such as ribbons, flowers, glitter etc. in the mane/tail or applied to the coat is forbidden. Red bows in the tail are permitted for horses that kick, Green ribbons for young horses and Yellow ribbons for registered Para riders (following permission from the Pony Club Office) are allowed.

**a) The following rules apply to ALL THREE PHASES:**

**i. Bridles** – Plain black or brown bridles only may be used. For safety reasons, leather bridles are recommended. Bridles with bit clips are not permitted.

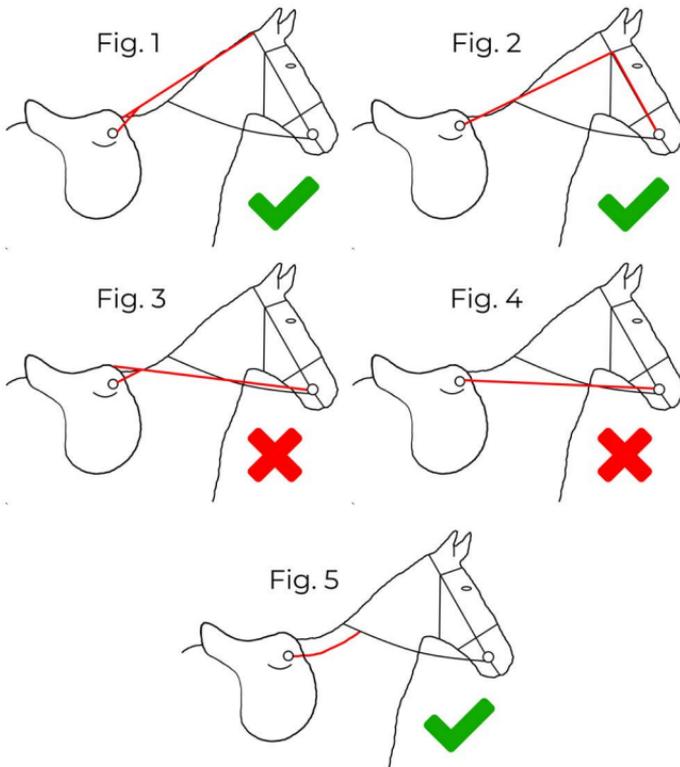
**ii. Nosebands** - Must not incorporate chain.

**iii. Bits** - synthetic bits are allowed.

**iv. Tongue Straps and Tongue Grids** are not allowed. Tongue guards are permitted for Show Jumping and Cross Country only.

**v. Reins** – Split reins, Ernest Dillon reins, Market Harboroughs and balancing, running, draw, check or bridge reins of any kind are forbidden. (A running, draw or check rein is one that is attached to the saddle, girth, martingale or breastplate on the horse.)

**vi. Grass and Balanced Support Reins**



Grass reins and balanced support reins are permitted at Pony Club rallies and competitions jumping up to 50cm or in the Walk and Trot Test subject to the following:

- ▶ only those reins shown in diagrams 1 and 2 (and 5) are permitted.
- ▶ the reins must be fitted to allow and not restrict the normal head position of the pony. The rein length must be sufficient to allow the pony to stretch over a small fence
- ▶ reins may be leather or synthetic material, if synthetic then a break point of leather or other suitable material must be included

**vii. Neckstraps** may be worn in all phases at all levels.

**viii. Saddles** – Black or brown saddles of plain English type with white, brown, dark blue or black girths. Competitors wishing to ride side-saddle must notify the Organiser of the competition at the time of entry.

**ix. Stirrups** should be of the correct size to suit the rider's boots. They must have 7mm ( $\frac{1}{4}$ " ) clearance on either side of the boot. To find this measurement, tack checkers should move the foot across to one side of the stirrup, with the widest part of the foot on the tread. From the side of the boot to the edge of the stirrup should not be less than 14mm.

There are now many types of stirrups marketed as 'safety stirrups'. All riders must ensure that their stirrups are suitable for the type of footwear they are wearing and the activities in which they are taking part and that the stirrup leathers are in good condition.

There are no prescribed weight limits on metal stirrups, however with the advent of stirrups of other materials, weight limits are frequently given by manufacturers. Any person buying these stirrups, should comply with weight limits defined on the box or attached information leaflets. Neither the feet nor the stirrup leathers or irons, may be attached to the girth, nor the feet attached to the stirrup irons.

It is strongly recommended that the design of the stirrup chosen allows the foot to be released easily in the event of a rider fall. Specific rules for individual sports can be found in the respective sports rulebooks.

Particular focus should be on ensuring that the boot and stirrup are the correct size for the rider taking part and used in line with the manufacturer's guidance.

For the avoidance of doubt, at Pony Club events:

- ▶ stirrups which connect the boot and the stirrup magnetically are not allowed
- ▶ Interlocking boot soles and stirrup treads are not allowed

**x. Weighted Boots and pinch boots** are not allowed.

**xi. Ear Covers, Fly Hoods, Nose Nets and Face Masks:** – are permitted for all competitions. The ear cover/fly fringe must not cover the horse's eyes. Titanium masks are not permitted in Pony Club competitions except in Pony Club Show Jumping and the Show Jumping phase of Pony Club Eventing.

Ear plugs are not permitted and spot checks may be carried out. **Visors/goggles are not permitted.**

Nose nets are permitted. Nose nets must cover the nose only leaving the mouth and bit visible.

**xii. Hoof Boots** – are not allowed.

**xiii. Humane Girths** – are not allowed. Humane girths pose an increased risk as many common designs may have complete girth failure if a single strap was to break. Humane girths are not permitted in any Sport, whether during training or competition.

**xiv. Saddle Cloths/Numnahs** – Any solid colour is permitted. Contrasting piping is permitted. Branch logos are allowed when competing for the Branch; logos must not exceed 200 sq. cm. This does not preclude the wearing of clothing for horses or riders that has been presented by sponsors of the Championships in the current or previous years.

## **b) DRESSAGE only**

**i. Bits** must comply with current rules for British Dressage and must be used in their manufactured condition without any addition to/on any part. If in doubt, guidance should be sought from the BD Rule Book or by emailing The Pony Club office with a photo of the bit in question.

**ii. Bit guards** are not allowed.

**iii. Nosebands** – One only of either cavesson, drop, flash, grackle or Mexican are permitted. Nosebands should be correctly fitted and should not cause discomfort. Nosebands must not incorporate chain or rope.

**iv. Martingales** and bearing, side, check or running reins are not permitted. Breastplates and cruppers are allowed.

**v. Boots and Bandages** may be worn whilst riding-in, but not during a Test.

**vi. Neckstraps** may be worn at all Levels.

**vii. Blinkers or cheek pieces** of any kind are forbidden.

**c) SHOW JUMPING and CROSS-COUNTRY only**

**i. Martingales** – The only martingales permitted are Irish, Standing, Running or Bib, only one of which may be worn at the same time. Standing martingales may be attached only to the cavesson portion of the noseband fitted above the bit.

**ii. Over girths** – Correctly fitted over girths are recommended for Cross Country riding with a double flapped saddle and a martingale/hunting breastplate.

**iii. Nosebands** – Only one may be worn unless using a standing martingale with a combination, Kineton or drop noseband or similar, in which case the addition of a cavesson is allowed. Nosebands should be correctly fitted and should not cause discomfort. Nosebands must not incorporate chain. Sheepskin nosebands are permitted.

**iv. Blinkers, leather cheek pieces** or any attachment to the horse or bridle which may affect the animal's field of vision are prohibited. Sheepskin or leather may be used on the cheek pieces of the bridle providing the sheepskin does not exceed 3cm in diameter measured from the animal's face.

**v. Bit guards** made entirely of rubber and smooth on both sides are permitted.

**vi. Tongue Guards** are permitted. The use of tongue straps, tongue grids, or the addition of string, twine or cord in or round the horse's mouth is forbidden.

**vii. In the Cross-Country and Show Jumping phases** any normal riding, hackamore or any bitless bridle are accepted. Bits should be in their original manufactured state.

## **21. ACTION AFTER A FALL**

Any competitor who has a fall or sustains a serious injury anywhere at the competition site **MUST** see the medical personnel on the day and be passed fit to ride before riding that horse in a further test or before riding any other horse.

## **22. HEAD INJURY AND CONCUSSION**

If a person is diagnosed with a concussion, they must not ride or take part

in any Pony Club organised activity that involves close contact/handling or riding of horses or ponies for 21 days. This may need to be extended if symptoms persist, on the advice of the treating doctor. All concussion must be reported to Head Office using the online accident report form or by email if it occurred outside of The Pony Club. Concussion advice should be followed without exception.

Head injuries and concussion can be very serious and life changing. Serious head injuries are usually obvious, but concussion can be very subtle. It may not be immediately apparent but should be taken very seriously. Recovery from concussion should be managed carefully.

This rule should be read in conjunction with:

- ▶ [The Pony Club Concussion Advice](#)
- ▶ [UK Government Concussion Guidelines](#)

Please contact [safety@pcuk.org](mailto:safety@pcuk.org) for further support and advice.

## **23. MEDICAL SUSPENSION**

If a Member has been suspended from taking part in any activity/competition/sport for medical reasons, this suspension must apply to all Pony Club activities until such time as the Member is passed fit by a medical professional to take part. It is the Member's and parent/guardian's responsibility to ensure adherence to this rule.

Medical letters are required, following a suspension for medical reasons, to allow a Member to take part in any activity again. The letter should be issued by either the hospital or specialist(s) involved in treating the injury, where appropriate.

## **24. UNSEEMLY BEHAVIOUR**

Unseemly behaviour on the part of riders, parents, team officials or team supporters will be reported as soon as possible by the Official Steward to The Pony Club Office. Offenders may be penalised by disqualification of the Branch or Branches concerned for a period of up to three years. Any competitor who, in the opinion of the Official Steward, has been rude or aggressive towards any officials at a competition, or who has behaved in an aggressive or unfair manner to their horse, may be disqualified.

## **25. PERFORMANCE-ENHANCING DRUGS**

All performance-enhancing drugs are strictly forbidden and The Pony Club

supports 100% clean sport.

### **a) Equine - Controlled Medication**

It is essential for the welfare of a horse/pony that appropriate veterinary treatment is given if and when required. Some medication, however, may mask an underlying health problem so horses and ponies should not take part in training or competition when taking such medication and any Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUE) should be confirmed in writing by a Vet.

### **b) Human**

Performance-enhancing drugs are forbidden. The Pony Club supports the approach taken by the UK Anti-Doping Agency in providing clean sport. The Pony Club disciplinary procedures will be used where doping is suspected including reporting to the UK Anti-Doping Agency.

### **c) Testing**

All competitors should be aware that random samples may be taken for testing from both themselves and/or their horse/pony. The protocol used will be that of the relevant adult discipline.

Competitors and their horses/ponies at national or international level may be subject to blood tests in line with the Sports Council Policy on illegal and prescribed substances. All young people competing at these levels should be aware of this.

### **d) Reporting**

i) Anyone who has reasonable grounds for suspecting that a Member is using or selling an illegal substance must report their concerns to the District Commissioner/Centre Proprietor as soon as practicable. If there is an immediate risk to the health, safety or welfare of one or more Members then the Police must be informed as soon as possible. The person reporting their concerns must ensure that any material evidence is retained

ii) Upon receiving a report of suspected use or selling of an illegal substance, the District Commissioner/Centre Proprietor should carry out an immediate investigation of the incident and the circumstances in which it occurred, and then decide upon the appropriate action to be taken. This will include:

- ▶ Informing the Member's parents/guardians
- ▶ Informing The Pony Club Area Representative who in turn will inform The Pony Club Office
- ▶ Informing the Police
- ▶ Suspending the Member concerned while investigations are

completed

- ▶ Awaiting the completion of Police investigations and actions

## **e) Disciplinary Action**

The normal disciplinary procedure should be followed in cases relating to alcohol or drugs, which can be found in The Pony Club Handbook.

For more information, please refer to the Welfare of Horses and Ponies at Pony Club Activities Policy, available on The Pony Club website.

## **26. DISQUALIFICATION**

The Official Steward or Chief Judge may disqualify a competitor at any stage of the competition for dangerous riding, or if, in their opinion, the horse is lame, sick or exhausted, or for misuse of whip, spur or bit, or ill-treatment of the horse, or for any breach of the rules, or for unseemly behaviour, including bad language.

## **27. COMPULSORY RETIREMENT**

At PC90, PC100, PC Chairman's Cup and PC110 competitors incurring more than 24 jumping penalties in the Show Jumping phase will incur Compulsory Retirement and will not be allowed to go Cross Country, but competitors eliminated for technical reasons (starting before the bell, error of course etc) may do so at the discretion of the Official Steward. At PC70 and PC80, competitors may continue at the discretion of the Official Steward. An accumulation of four refusals on the Cross Country course incurs Elimination **at all levels**.

## **28. DIRECTIONS FROM OFFICIALS**

Competitors and their supporters must, under penalty of elimination or disqualification, obey any order or direction given to them by any official and they must, in particular, be careful not to do anything liable to upset or hinder the undisturbed progress of the competition.

## **29. SPONSORSHIP**

In the case of competitors and horses, no form of advertising, and this includes a sponsor's name, may appear on the competitor's or horse's clothing and equipment at any Pony Club competition, other than branding, which must be on the left leg of the rider's breeches and not be longer than 20 cms or wider than 4cm.

This does not preclude the wearing of clothing for horses or riders that

has been presented by sponsors of the Championships in the current or previous years. Sponsors at Area Competitions must not be business competitors of the main sponsors of the discipline, and must be approved by The Pony Club Office.

Any advertising material that is used by sponsors, whether it be in the form of display banners or programme material, must be tasteful, and not inappropriate to the image of The Pony Club.

### **30. INSURANCE**

The Pony Club 'Public and Products Liability Insurance' Policy includes cover for all the official Area Competitions and the Championships. Details of this insurance are available on The Pony Club website. In the event of any accident, loss or damage occurring to a third party or to the property of a third party (including the general public and competitors) no liability should be admitted, and full details should be sent at once to The Pony Club Office. The following statements should be included in all event schedules:

**Health & Safety** - Organisers of this event have taken reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone present. For these measures to be effective, everyone must take all reasonable precautions to avoid and prevent accidents occurring and must obey the instructions of the organisers and all the officials and stewards.

**Legal Liability** - Save for the death or personal injury caused by the negligence of the organisers, or anyone for whom they are in law responsible, neither the organisers of this event or The Pony Club nor any agent, employee or representative of these bodies, nor the landlord or his tenant, accepts any liability for any accident, loss, damage, injury or illness to horses, owners, riders, spectators, land, cars, their contents and accessories, or any other person or property whatsoever. Entries are only accepted on this basis.

### **31. LONE COMPETITORS**

Competitors attending a competition on their own must inform the Secretary and provide Emergency Contact Details and location and details of their horsebox.

### **32. DESTRUCTION OF SEVERELY INJURED HORSES**

If in the opinion of the Official Veterinary Surgeon a horse is so severely injured that on humanitarian grounds it ought to be destroyed, the following procedure will apply.

If the owner or their authorised representative is present, the Official Veterinary Surgeon will first obtain their agreement. If the owner or their representative is not available, the Official Steward, acting on the advice of the Official Veterinary Surgeon, may order the destruction of a horse.

NB: Owners should be aware that this Rule is slightly at variance with The Protection of Animals Act 1911 Section 11, which states that, in the absence of the owner, a Police Constable acting on the advice of a registered Veterinary Surgeon may order the destruction of a horse. This Rule is framed to avoid unnecessary suffering to a severely injured horse.

### **33. VACCINATION**

A valid passport and vaccination record:

- ▶ must accompany the horse/pony to all events
- ▶ must be available for inspection by the event officials
- ▶ must be produced on request at any other time during the event

All ponies/horses must be compliant with the current Pony Club minimum vaccination requirements - please see the website for the current rule.

Note: Events that are held at other venues may be subject to additional specific rules. For example, any horse/pony entering a Licensed Racecourse Property must comply with the Vaccination requirements as set by the British Horseracing Authority. Similar restrictions apply in the cases of certain polo venues. If you are intending to compete under FEI Rules you will need to ensure you are compliant with those Rules.

### **34. EXERCISE**

Competitors may only exercise their horses in designated areas and must not exercise in the car or horsebox park or among spectators.

Entering or practising in the Competition Dressage Arenas, Show Jumping Arena, or Cross-Country Course is strictly prohibited, with violation resulting in elimination.

On the day of the competition, horses may only be ridden by their designated riders; in exceptional circumstances, another team member may ride with permission from the Official Steward.

Lunging, if allowed by the organiser, should only be in designated areas, and can be performed by the rider or another person; however, lunging a horse and rider together is not permitted.

All horses must use saddlery allowed under the Rules while exercising.

During warm-ups, riders should pass left hand to left hand, ensuring they do not disturb other horses.

Tack adjustments must be made in safe areas to avoid obstruction, and trainers and pedestrians should keep clear of competitors.

### **35. RAPPING**

Rapping at or anywhere in the vicinity of the event is strictly prohibited.

Definition of Rapping: Raising, throwing or moving a pole, stick, rope or other object against one or more of the legs of a horse while it is jumping an obstacle, so that the horse in either case is induced to raise such leg or legs higher in order to clear the obstacle.

### **36. STALLIONS**

Stallions may only be ridden with the written permission of the District Commissioner and must wear identifying discs on their bridles in the interest of safety.

# SECTION C – RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR ARENA EVENTING

**The following rules do not apply to Spring Festival Arena Eventing qualifiers and Championship competitions. Refer to the Spring Festival rules.**

## **PONY CLUB ARENA EVENTING**

Arena Eventing is a two-phase competition, which can be run on either an indoor arena, outdoor surface or a grass arena. General rules follow the current Pony Club Eventing Rule book except as modified below.

Competitors will jump a course of show jumps immediately followed by a course of cross-country style fences\*\*. There must be no more than 20 jumping efforts in total.

The optimum time should be based on a speed of 325 mpm for PC70, 350 mpm for PC80, 360 mpm for PC90, and 375 mpm PC100.

Horses/Ponies must be aged 5 years old and over. Stop Watches are not permitted at any level.

The winner will be the competitor with the lowest number of penalties. In the event of a tie the winner will be the one closest to the optimum time.

There should be a drawn order and, where possible, approximate start times given in advance of the day

The course will only be open for walking before the class starts. The Judge's decision is final.

## **PENALTIES**

### **SJ Phase**

- ▶ **Knocking down obstacle**  
4 penalties
- ▶ **First disobedience of horse**  
4 penalties
- ▶ **Second disobedience of horse in whole course**  
8 penalties
- ▶ **Third disobedience of horse in whole course**  
Elimination\*  
(Each circle or crossing tracks between fences counts as one disobedience)

- ▶ **Fall of rider**  
Elimination\*
- ▶ **Fall of Horse**  
Elimination\*
- ▶ **Error of course not rectified**  
Elimination\*
- ▶ **Failure to start or jump next fence within 60 seconds**  
Elimination\*
- ▶ **Starting before the Bell**  
Elimination\*
- ▶ **Continuing the course without a hat, or with chinstrap undone**  
Elimination\*

\*Competitors eliminated in this phase may not proceed to the XC phase

### **XC Phase**

- ▶ **Knocking down an obstacle**  
4 penalties
- ▶ **First refusal, run-out or circle of horse at obstacle**  
20 penalties
- ▶ **Second refusal, run-out or circle at same obstacle**  
40 penalties
- ▶ **Third refusal, run-out or circle at same obstacle**  
Elimination
- ▶ **Four refusals around the course**  
Elimination
- ▶ **Fall of horse**  
Elimination
- ▶ **Fall of rider**  
Elimination
- ▶ **Error of Course not rectified**  
Elimination
- ▶ **Horse trapped in obstacle**  
Elimination
- ▶ **Horse resisting rider for 60 consecutive seconds anywhere on the course**  
Elimination
- ▶ **Failure to cross the finish line mounted**  
Elimination
- ▶ **Continuing the course without a hat, or with chinstrap undone**  
Elimination

Time will be taken overall.

- ▶ **Exceeding the time limit**  
Elimination
- ▶ **For every commenced second in excess of the optimum time**  
0.4 penalty
- ▶ **Every commenced second in excess of 5 seconds under the optimum time**  
0.4 penalty

Time limit is twice the optimum time.

## NOTES

**\*\*XC Portable Fences/Fixed Fences** – These must not be used unless they can be properly and safely anchored. (See Eventing Organisers Handbook, and Guidance on Cross Country Fences. In their place, and especially on surfaces, knock down substitutes should be used, i.e. rustic show jumps or those supplied by specialist manufacturers such as “Jump for Joy”

If local conditions dictate, Organisers can choose not to time the Show Jumping Phase, but the XC phase must be timed.

**Safety Cups** – Safety Cups are mandatory for all Pony Club Show Jumping Competitions including any practice fences. To be used on the back rails of spread fences and middle and back rails of triple bars. They should also be used for all knock down fences in the XC Phase.

It is recommended a BS Course Designer, preferably one with Arena Eventing experience, is used if possible. For Area Competitions this is mandatory. If the course designer is not qualified, then approval must be sought from The Pony Club.

Courses should be built within the dimensions set out in the current Pony Club Eventing Rules.

**First Aid** – See The Pony Club Health and Safety Rule Book.

# APPENDICES

## APPENDIX A – METRIC CONVERSION TABLE

Metres	Feet/Inches	Metres	Feet/Inches	Metres	Feet/Inches
0.50	1' 7"	1.30	4' 3"	2.10	6' 10"
0.55	1' 9"	1.35	4' 5"	2.15	7' 0"
0.60	1' 11"	1.40	4' 7"	2.20	7' 2"
0.65	2' 1"	1.45	4' 9"	2.25	7' 4"
0.70	2' 3"	1.50	4' 11"	2.30	7' 6"
0.75	2' 5"	1.55	5' 1"	2.35	7' 8"
0.80	2' 7"	1.60	5' 3"	2.40	7' 10"
0.85	2' 9"	1.65	5' 5"	2.45	8' 0"
0.90	2' 11"	1.70	5' 7"	2.50	8' 2"
0.95	3' 1"	1.75	5' 9"	2.55	8' 4"
1.00	3' 3"	1.80	5' 11"	2.60	8' 6"
1.05	3' 5"	1.85	6' 1"	2.65	8' 8"
1.10	3' 7"	1.90	6' 3"	2.70	8' 10"
1.15	3' 9"	1.95	6' 5"	2.75	9' 0"
1.20	3' 11"	2.00	6' 6"	2.80	9' 2"
1.25	4' 1"	2.05	6' 8"	2.85	9' 4"

## APPENDIX B - PONY CLUB DRESSAGE TESTS USED IN EVENTING

### THE PONY CLUB FOUNDATION PC70 TEST 2026

20m x 40m Arena

<b>1.</b>	A C	Enter at working trot and proceed down the centre line without halting. Turn right.	10
<b>2.</b>	MBF	Working trot.	10
<b>3.</b>	A	Circle right 20m diameter in working trot.	10
<b>4.</b>	KXM	Change the rein in working trot.	10
<b>5.</b>	C Btwn C & H	Circle left 20m diameter in working trot. Walk.	10
<b>6.</b>	HXF	Free walk on a long rein.	10x2
<b>7.</b>	Btwn F & A	Medium walk.	10
<b>8.</b>	K	Working trot.	10
<b>9.</b>	E	Circle right 20m diameter and on the second half of the circle working canter right.	10
<b>10.</b>	EHCMB	Working canter.	10
<b>11.</b>	Btwn B & F	Working trot.	10
<b>12.</b>	KXM	Change the rein in working trot.	10
<b>13.</b>	E	Circle left 20m diameter and on the second half of the circle working canter left.	10
<b>14.</b>	EKAFB	Working canter.	10
<b>15.</b>	Btwn B & M	Working trot.	10
<b>16.</b>	E	Half circle 10m to X	10
<b>17.</b>	G	Halt and salute. The halt may be progressive through walk.	10
<b>Leave the arena at free walk on a long rein at a convenient place.</b>			
<b>18.</b>		Fluency of the transitions.	10
<b>19.</b>		Harmony between rider and horse/pony.	10x2
<b>20.</b>		Rider's balance, straightness and suppleness.	10x2
<b>21.</b>		Rider's influence over the horse/pony's way of going.	10x2
			<b>250</b>

## THE PONY CLUB GRASSROOTS PC80 TEST 2026

20m x 40m Arena

1.	A C	Enter in working trot and proceed down the centre line without halting. Turn left.	10
2.	HXF	Change the rein.	10
3.	A	Circle right 20 metres diameter.	10
4.	Btwn A&K	Transition to working canter right.	10
5.	C	Circle right 20 metres diameter.	10
6.	Btwn B&F	Transition to working trot.	10
7.	Btwn H&C	Transition to medium walk.	10
8.	MEF	Free walk on a long rein.	10x2
9.	F A	Medium walk. Transition to working trot.	10
10.	KXM	Change the rein.	10
11.	C	Circle left 20 metres diameter.	10
12.	Btwn C&H	Transition to working canter left.	10
13.	A	Circle left 20 metres diameter.	10
14.	Btwn B&M	Transition to working trot.	10
15.	E X	Half circle left 10 metres diameter to X. Down centre line.	10
16.	G	Halt. Immobility. Salute.	10
<b>Leave the arena at free walk on a long rein at a convenient place.</b>			
17.		Paces	10
18.		Harmony between horse/pony and rider.	10x2
19.		Rider's balance and straightness.	10x2
20.		Rider's use of aids.	10x2
			<b>240</b>

## THE PONY CLUB GRASSROOTS PC80 CHAMPIONSHIP TEST 2026

20m x 40m Arena

1.	A	Enter in working trot.	10
2.	C	Track left.	10
3.	Just before K	Half 15 metre circle left. Return to track at H.	10
4.	C	Transition to walk 2 - 5 steps, proceed at working trot.	10
5.	Just before F	Half 15 metre circle right. Return to track at M.	10
6.	C	Transition to walk 2 - 5 steps, proceed at working trot.	10
7.	E	Commence 20 metre circle left. Between centre line and B transition to working canter.	10
8.	A	20 metre circle left.	10
9.	Btwn A&F	Transition to trot.	10
10.	M	Medium walk.	10
11.	HXF	Free walk on a long rein.	10x2
12.	F A	Medium walk. Working trot.	10
13.	E	Commence 20 metre circle right. Between centre line and B transition to working canter.	10
14.	C	20 metre circle right.	10
15.	Btwn M&B	Working trot.	10
16.	KX	Working trot. Proceed down centre line.	10
17.	G	Halt, immobility, salute.	10
<b>Leave arena at walk on a long rein at a suitable place.</b>			
18.		Paces	10
19.		Fluency through transitions	10x2
20.		Co-operation	10x2
21.		Rider position and seat	10x2
			<b>250</b>

## THE PONY CLUB PC90 EVENTING TEST 2026

20m x 40m Arena

1.	A	Enter in working trot and proceed down the centre line without halting.	10
2.	C E EKAF	Track left. Circle left 15 metres diameter. Working trot	10
3.	BH Over C	Change the rein. Walk 3 - 5 steps, continue in working trot.	10
4.	B FAK	Circle right 15 metres diameter. Working trot.	10
5.	EM Over C	Change rein. Walk 3 - 5 steps, continue in working trot.	10
6.	HEKA	Working trot.	10
7.	Btwn A&F FB	Working canter left. Working canter.	10
8.	B	Circle left 20m diameter.	10
9.	BMCH	Working canter.	10
10.	HXF	Change rein with transition to working trot between X & F.	10
11.	Btwn A&K KE	Working canter right. Working canter.	10
12.	E	Circle right 20m diameter.	10
13.	EHCM	Working canter.	10
14.	MXK	Change rein with transition to working trot between X & K.	10
15.	A FXM	Medium walk. 10m loop in free walk on a long rein.	10x2
16.	MCH	Medium walk.	10
17.	H EX	Working trot. Half circle 10m, continue down centre line.	10
18.	G	Halt, immobility, salute.	10
<b>Leave the arena at walk on a long rein at a suitable place.</b>			
19.		Paces	10
20.		Co-operation	10x2
21.		Rider position and seat	10x2
22.		Rider influence over horse/pony's way of going	10x2

**260**

## THE PONY CLUB PC90 EVENTING CHAMPIONSHIP TEST 2026

20m x 40m Arena

<b>1.</b>	A	Enter at working trot and proceed down the centre line without halting.	10
<b>2.</b>	C	Track right and immediately commence a 3 loop serpentine, with each loop going to the sides of the arena, finishing at A on the right rein.	10
<b>3.</b>	AKE E	Working trot. Turn right.	10
<b>4.</b>	X	Halt 3 - 5 seconds, proceed at medium walk.	10
<b>5.</b>	B BMC	Turn left. Medium walk.	10
<b>6.</b>	C HB	Proceed in free walk on a long rein. Change the rein in free walk on a long rein.	10x2
<b>7.</b>	B	Transition to medium walk and before F working trot.	10
<b>8.</b>	FAK K	Working trot. Transition to working canter right.	10
<b>9.</b>	E	Circle right 20 metres diameter. Give and retake the inside rein when crossing the centre line for the second time.	10
<b>10.</b>	EHCMB	Working canter.	10
<b>11.</b>	Btwn B & F	Transition to working trot.	10
<b>12.</b>	A	Half circle right 20 metres diameter to X.	10
<b>13.</b>	X	Half circle left 20 metres diameter to C.	10
<b>14.</b>	H	Transition to working canter left.	10
<b>15.</b>	E	Circle left 20 metres diameter. Give and retake the inside rein when crossing the centre line for the first time.	10
<b>16.</b>	EKAFB	Working canter.	10
<b>17.</b>	Btwn B & M MCHE	Transition to working trot. Working trot.	10
<b>18.</b>	E X G	Half circle left 10 metres diameter to X. Proceed on the centre line. Halt, immobility, salute.	10
<b>Leave the arena at walk on a long rein at a convenient place.</b>			
<b>19.</b>		Paces	10
<b>20.</b>		Co-operation	10x2
<b>21.</b>		Rider position and seat	10x2
<b>22.</b>		Riders influence over the horse/pony's way of going	10x2

**250**

## THE PONY CLUB PC100 EVENTING TEST 2026

20m x 40m Arena

<b>1.</b>	A	Enter at working trot and proceed down the centre line without halting.	10
	C	Turn left.	
<b>2.</b>	E	Turn left.	10
	B	Turn right.	
<b>3.</b>	A	3 loop serpentine each loop going to the long side of the arena and finishing on the right rein at C.	10
<b>4.</b>	MXK	Change the rein showing a few medium trot steps.	10
<b>5.</b>	A	Circle left 15 metre diameter in working trot.	10
<b>6.</b>	FXH	Change the rein and over X give and retake the reins.	10
<b>7.</b>	C	Circle right 15 metre diameter in working trot.	10
<b>8.</b>	Btwn C & M	Working canter right.	10
<b>9.</b>	B	Circle right 20 metre diameter.	10
<b>10.</b>	BFAK	Working canter.	10
<b>11.</b>	KXM	Change the rein and between X & M transition to working trot.	10
<b>12.</b>	Btwn C & H	Working canter left.	10
<b>13.</b>	E	Circle left 20 metre diameter in working canter.	10
<b>14.</b>	EKAF	Working canter.	10
<b>15.</b>	FXH	Change the rein with a transition to working trot over X.	10
<b>16.</b>	C	Medium walk.	10
<b>17.</b>	ME	Free walk on a long rein.	10x2
<b>18.</b>	EKA	Medium walk.	10
<b>19.</b>	A	Working trot.	10
	FX	Working trot.	
<b>20.</b>	X	Continue on centre line.	10
	G	Halt and salute.	
<b>Leave the arena at walk on a long rein at a convenient place.</b>			
<b>21.</b>		Paces	10
<b>22.</b>		Impulsion	10x2
<b>23.</b>		Co-operation	10x2
<b>24.</b>		Rider position and seat	10x2
			<b>280</b>

## THE PONY CLUB PC100 EVENTING CHAMPIONSHIP TEST 2025

20m x 60m Arena

<b>1.</b>	A	Enter in working trot. Proceed down the centre line without halting.	10
	C	Track right	
<b>2.</b>	MR	Working trot.	10
	R	Turn right. Over centre line walk 3 - 5 steps. Proceed in working trot.	
	S	Turn left.	
<b>3.</b>	E	Circle left 15m.	10
<b>4.</b>	EV	Working trot.	10
	V	Turn left. Over centre line walk 3 - 5 steps. Proceed in working trot.	
	P	Turn right.	
<b>5.</b>	FA	Working trot.	10
	A	Circle right 15m.	
	AK	Working trot.	
<b>6.</b>	KR	Change the rein and show some medium trot steps.	10
	RCS	Working trot.	
<b>7.</b>	SF	Change the rein and show some medium trot strides.	10
	FAV	Working trot.	
<b>8.</b>	VH	Working trot.	10
	Btwn H&C	Transition to working canter.	
<b>9.</b>	CM	Working canter.	10
	MP	Show some medium canter strides.	
	PA	Working canter.	
<b>10.</b>	A	Circle right 20m.	10
<b>11.</b>	AKV	Working canter right.	10
	VXR	Change rein with change of leg through trot over X.	
	RMC	Working canter left.	
<b>12.</b>	CH	Working canter.	10
	HV	Show some medium canter strides.	
	VA	Working canter.	
<b>13.</b>	A	Circle left 20m.	10
<b>14.</b>	AFP	Working canter left.	10
	PXS	Change rein with change of leg through trot over X.	
	SH	Working canter right.	
<b>15.</b>	H	Working trot.	10
	C	Medium walk.	

<b>16.</b>	RV	Free walk on a long rein.	10x2
<b>17.</b>	KA A	Medium walk. Down the centre line.	10
<b>18.</b>	L G	Working trot. Halt, immobility, salute.	10
<b>Leave the arena at walk on a long rein at a suitable place.</b>			
<b>19.</b>		Paces	10
<b>20.</b>		Impulsion	10x2
<b>21.</b>		Co-operation	10x2
<b>22.</b>		Rider position and seat	10x2
			<b>260</b>

## THE PONY CLUB PC CHAIRMAN'S CUP EVENTING TEST 2026

20m x 40m Arena

<b>1.</b>	A C	Enter in working trot and proceed down the centre line without halting. Track right.	10
<b>2.</b>	B BFA	Circle right 15 metres diameter. Give and retake the inside rein on the first half of the circle. Working trot.	10
<b>3.</b>	A	Serpentine 3 loops, each loop to go to the long side of the arena, finishing on the right rein at C.	10
<b>4.</b>	Btwn C&M	Transition to working canter right.	10
<b>5.</b>	B BAK	Circle right 20 metres diameter. Working canter.	10
<b>6.</b>	KXM Btwn X&M	Change the rein on the diagonal. Transition to working trot.	10
<b>7.</b>	C	Halt 3-5 seconds, proceed in medium walk.	10
<b>8.</b>	HE E BM	Free walk on a long rein. Half circle left 20 metres diameter in free walk to B. Free walk.	10x2
<b>9.</b>	M C	Medium walk. Working trot.	10
<b>10.</b>	E EKA	Circle left 15 metres diameter. Give and retake the inside rein on the first half of the circle. Working trot.	10
<b>11.</b>	A	Serpentine 3 loops, each loop to go to the long side of the arena, finishing on the left rein at C.	10
<b>12.</b>	Btwn C&H	Transition to working canter left.	10
<b>13.</b>	E EKF	Circle left 20 metres diameter. Working canter.	10
<b>14.</b>	FXH Btwn X&H	Change the rein on the diagonal. Transition to working trot.	10
<b>15.</b>	MXK KA	Change the rein and show some medium trot strides. Working trot.	10
<b>16.</b>	A	Turn down the centre line.	10
<b>17.</b>	G	Halt. Salute.	10
<b>Leave the arena at free walk on a long rein at a convenient place.</b>			
<b>19.</b>		Paces	10
<b>20.</b>		Impulsion	10x2
<b>21.</b>		Co-operation	10x2
<b>22.</b>		Rider position and seat	10x2

**260**

## THE PONY CLUB PC CHAIRMAN'S CUP EVENTING CHAMPIONSHIP TEST 2026

20m x 60m Arena

<b>1.</b>	A	Enter at working trot. Proceed down the centre line without halting.	10
	C	Turn left.	
<b>2.</b>	S	Circle left 15 metres diameter.	10
<b>3.</b>	SF	Change the rein in medium trot.	10
	F	Working trot.	
<b>4.</b>	A	Turn onto the centre line.	10
	D	Leg yield right to between B and R.	
<b>5.</b>	M	Transition to working canter left.	10
	MCH	Working canter.	
<b>6.</b>	HV	Medium canter.	10
	VKA	Working canter.	
<b>7.</b>	A	Circle left 20 metres diameter. Give and retake the reins when crossing the centre line.	10
	AFP	Working canter.	
<b>8.</b>	PXS	Change the rein.	10
	SH	Counter canter.	
	H	Transition to working trot.	
<b>9.</b>	HCMR	Working trot.	10
	R	Circle right 15 metres diameter.	
<b>10.</b>	RK	Change the rein in medium trot.	10
	K	Working trot.	
<b>11.</b>	A	Turn onto the centre line.	10
	D	Leg yield left to between E and S.	
<b>12.</b>	H	Transition to working canter right.	10
	HCM	Working canter.	
<b>13.</b>	MP	Medium canter.	10
	PFA	Working canter.	
<b>14.</b>	A	Circle right 20 metres diameter. Give and retake the reins when crossing the centre line.	10
	AKV	Working canter.	
<b>15.</b>	VXR	Change the rein.	10
	RM	Counter canter.	
	M	Transition to working trot.	
<b>16.</b>	C	Halt, immobility 3 - 5 seconds. Proceed in medium walk.	10
<b>17.</b>	HSXPF	Change the rein in free walk on a long rein.	10X2
<b>18.</b>	F	Medium walk.	10
	A	Transition to working trot.	
	AKV	Working trot.	

<b>19.</b>	VP P	Half circle right 20 metres diameter, allow the horse to seek the rein and stretch. Continue stretching.	10
<b>20.</b>	Before F A	Retake the reins. Turn onto the centre line.	10
<b>21.</b>	X	Halt, immobility, salute.	10
<b>Leave the arena at free walk on a long rein at a convenient place.</b>			
<b>22.</b>		Paces	10
<b>23.</b>		Impulsion	10x2
<b>24.</b>		Co-operation	10x2
<b>25.</b>		Rider position and seat	10x2
			<b>290</b>

## THE PONY CLUB PC110 EVENTING TEST 2026

20m x 40m Arena

1.	A	Enter in working trot and proceed down the centre line without halting.	10
	C	Turn left.	
	CS	Working trot.	
2.	S	Circle left 10 metres diameter in sitting trot.	10
	SE	Working trot.	
3.	E	Turn left.	10
	X	Halt 3-5 seconds.	
	B	Turn right.	
	BP	Working trot.	
4.	P	Circle right 10 metres diameter in sitting trot.	10
	PAV	Working trot.	
5.	VXR	Change the rein and show some medium trot steps.	10
	RC	Working trot.	
6.	Btwn C & H	Working canter left.	10
	HS	Working canter.	
7.	S	Circle left 15 metres diameter.	10
8.	SV	Show some medium canter strides.	10
	VAF	Working canter.	
9.	FLE	Change the rein on the diagonal.	10
	Btwn L & E	Transition to working trot.	
	ES	Working trot.	
10.	Btwn S & H	Transition to walk 2-5 steps then return to working trot.	10
11.	Btwn C & M	Working canter right.	10
	MR	Working canter.	
12.	R	Circle right 15 metres diameter.	10
13.	RP	Show some medium canter strides.	10
	PAK	Working canter.	
14.	KLB	Change the rein on the diagonal.	10
	Btwn L & B	Transition to working trot.	
	BM	Working trot.	
15.	M	Medium walk.	10
16.	HP	Change the rein free walk on a long rein.	10x2
17.	P	Medium walk.	10
	F	Working trot.	
18.	A	Turn down the centre line.	10
	X	Halt. Immobility. Salute.	

**Leave the arena at free walk on a long rein at a convenient place.**

<b>19.</b>	Paces	10
<b>20.</b>	Impulsion	10x2
<b>21.</b>	Co-operation	10x2
<b>22.</b>	Rider position and seat	10x2
		<b>260</b>

## THE PONY CLUB PC110 EVENTING CHAMPIONSHIP TEST 2026

20m x 60m Arena

<b>1.</b>	A C	Enter in working trot and proceed down the centre line without halting. Track right.	10
<b>2.</b>	R RP	Circle right 10 metres diameter in sitting trot. Working trot.	10
<b>3.</b>	P RM	Half circle right 15 metres diameter returning to the track at R. Working trot.	10
<b>4.</b>	Over C HS	Transition to walk 2 – 5 steps then returning to working trot. Working trot.	10
<b>5.</b>	S SV	Circle left 10 metres diameter in sitting trot. Working trot.	10
<b>6.</b>	V SHCM	Half circle left 15 metres diameter returning to the track at S. Working trot.	10
<b>7.</b>	MV VA	Change the rein and show medium trot strides. Working trot.	10
<b>8.</b>	A	Halt immobility 4 seconds. Proceed in medium walk.	10
<b>9.</b>	FS	Change the rein at free walk on a long rein.	10x2
<b>10.</b>	S H	Transition to medium walk. Transition to working trot.	10
<b>11.</b>	C CM	Circle right 20 metres diameter, transition to working canter right on crossing the centre line. Working canter.	10
<b>12.</b>	MP PFA	Show medium canter strides. Working canter.	10
<b>13.</b>	KXR RM M	Change the rein. Counter canter. Trot.	10
<b>14.</b>	C HV	Working canter left. Medium canter.	10
<b>15.</b>	A	Circle left 20 metres diameter in working canter.	10
<b>16.</b>	FXS SH H	Change the rein in working canter. Counter canter. Working trot.	10
<b>17.</b>	MIE E V	Medium trot. Working trot. Half 10 metre circle to L.	10
<b>18.</b>	G	Halt. Immobility. Salute.	10

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**Leave the arena at walk on a long rein at a convenient place.**

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<b>19.</b>	Paces	10
<b>20.</b>	Impulsion	10x2
<b>21.</b>	Co-operation	10x2
<b>22.</b>	Rider position and seat	10x2

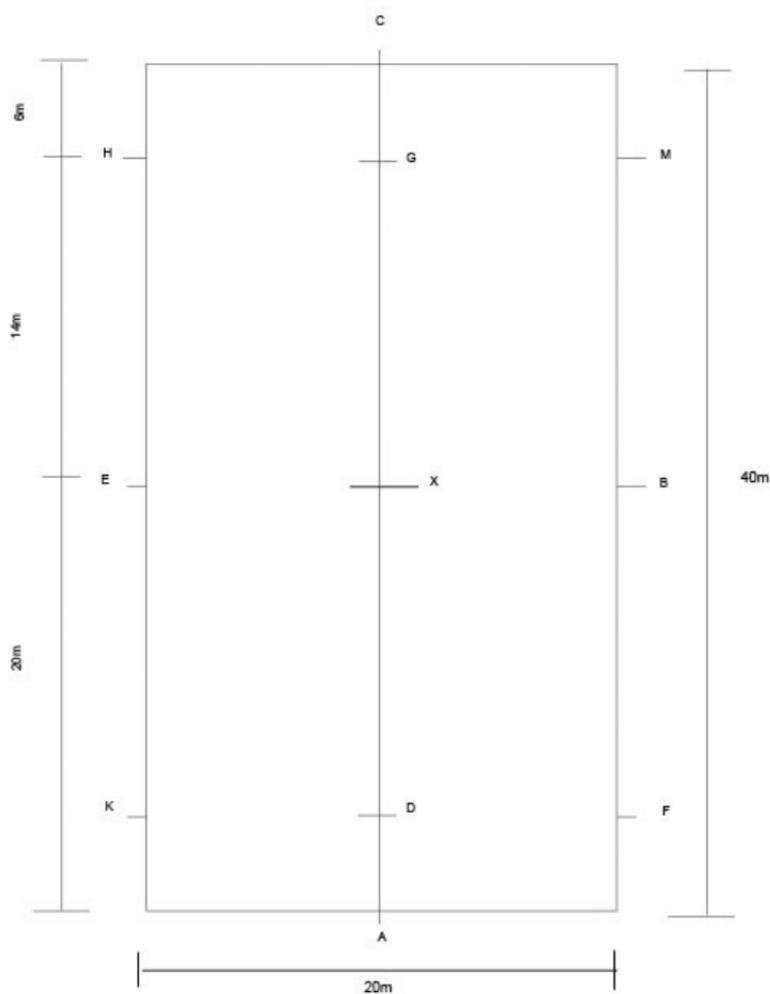
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**260**

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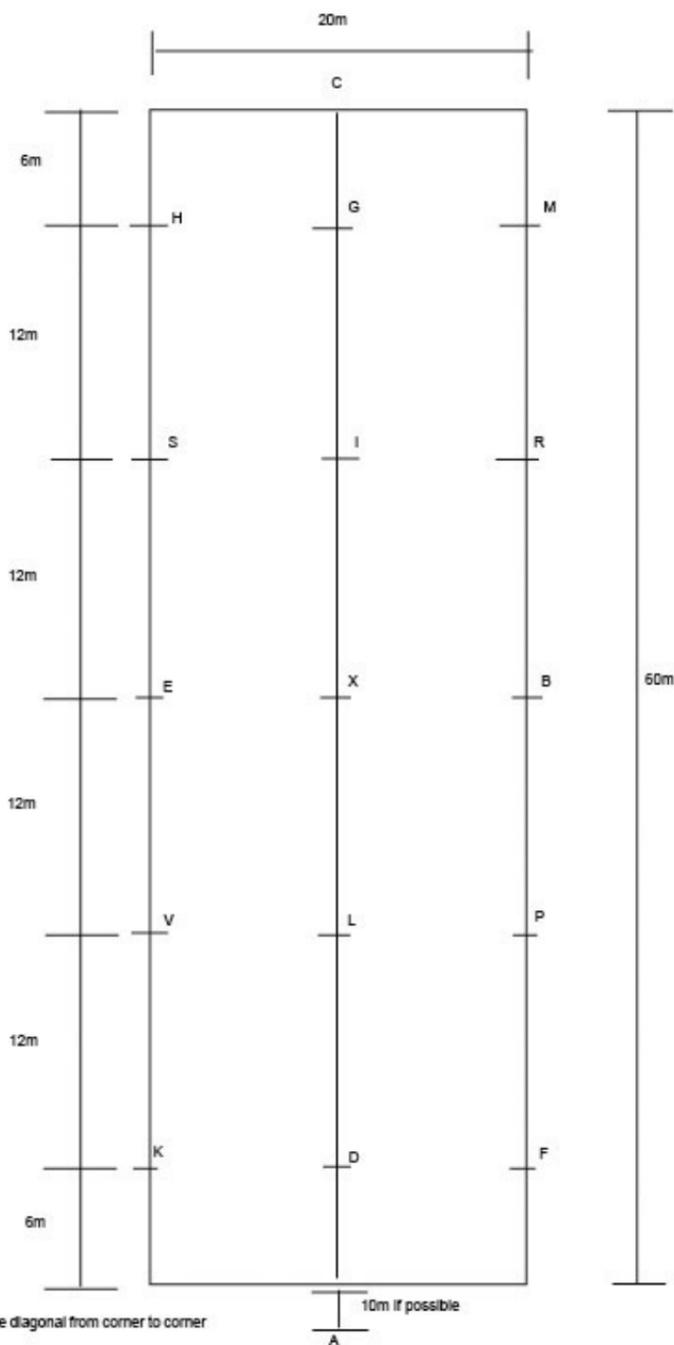
## APPENDIX C – DIAGRAMS OF DRESSAGE ARENAS

DIAGRAM OF 20 x 40m ARENA



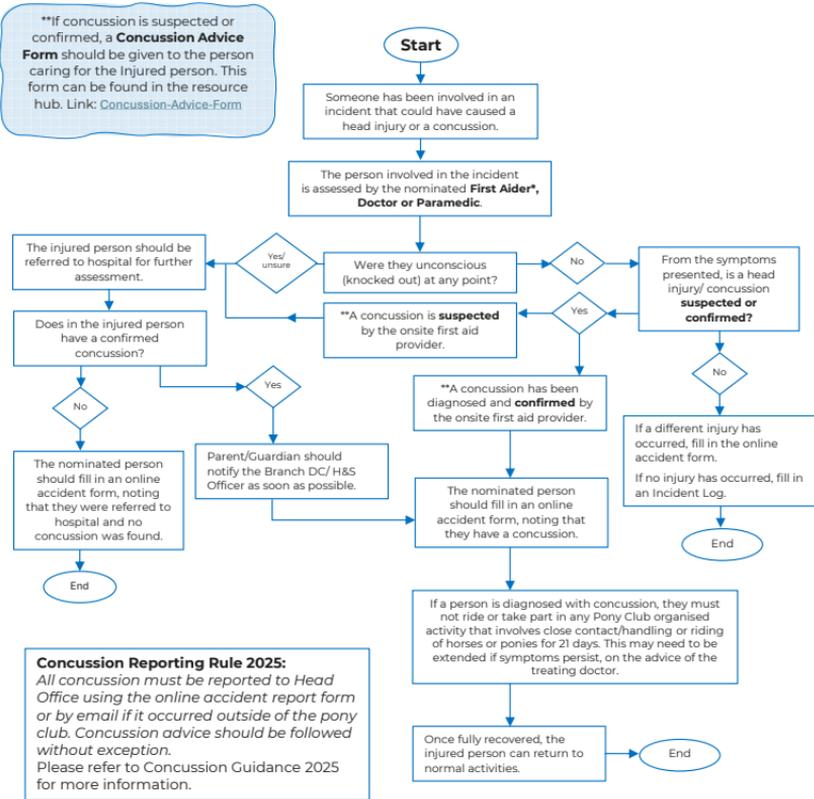
The length of the diagonal from corner to corner is 44.72m

DIAGRAM OF 20 x 60m ARENA



The length of the diagonal from corner to corner is 63.25m

# APPENDIX D – HEAD INJURY AND CONCUSSION FLOWCHART



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