

# Monmouthshire Pony Club

## Dress and Tack Rules

The dress code for each of the individual sports is given in the individual rule books. However, there are some items of dress that have safety implications. Members are expected to dress correctly and safely for all Pony Club activities.

### **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 Mounted. No recording device is permitted (e.g. hat / bridle cameras, etc.)

## **Dress**

### **Clothing**

When mounted at Pony Club activities, Members should wear a Branch sweatshirt/T-Shirt/Jacket (or navy jumper if don't have branch clothing), jodhpurs/breeches (usually dark coloured). Some instructors may not allow hooded jumpers to be worn.

New clothing is not expected, but what is worn must be clean, neat and tidy.

Jeans should not be worn when mounted.

**As a minimum shoulders must be covered for all riding activities.**

**Glasses and contact lens** are permitted whilst riding, the materials these items are made of meet the necessary British Standards to reduce the risk of harm. To support security whilst riding members may wear a glasses safety strap, if they wish to.

### **Footwear**

Only standard riding or jodhpur boots with a fairly smooth, thin sole and 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, "muckers" or trainers. Boots with interlocking treads are not permitted, nor are the boots or treads individually.

### **Jewellery**

**Jewellery** – the wearing of any sort of jewellery when handling or riding a horse/pony is not recommended and if done at any Pony Club activity, is done at the risk of the member/their parent/guardian. However, to stop any risk of injury, necklaces and bracelets (other than medical bracelets) must be removed, as must larger and more pendulous pieces of jewellery (including those attached to piercings) which create a risk of injury to the body part through which they are secured. For the avoidance of

doubt a wristwatch, wedding ring, stock pin worn horizontally and/or a tie clip are permitted. It is recommended that stock pins are removed for cross country.

## Hair

**Hair must be secured in a hair net or neat bun. Long hair shouldn't be flowing.**



## Hats and Body Protectors

These are to be in accordance with guidance and meet recommended Safety Standards as detailed in the Rulebooks.

### Hat Rule 2024

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 British Equestrian (BEF) 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 second hand hats are not purchased.

**The hat standards accepted as of 1st January 2024 are detailed in the table below:  
 Hat Standard Safety Mark.**

| Hat Standard  | Safety Mark  | Allowed at the following activities: |
|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| PAS 015: 2011* with BSI Kitemark                              |    | All activities                       |
| VG1 with BSI Kitemark   |   | All activities                       |
| Snell E2016* onwards with the official Snell label and number |  | All activities                       |
| ASTM-F1163 2004a onwards with the SEI mark                    |  | All activities                       |
| AS/NZS 3838, 2006 onwards                                     |  | All activities                       |

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.

## Body Protector Rule 2024



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).

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.

## 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.

## Tack

### Unsafe Tack

All tack must be clean, in a good state of repair, properly fitted and suitable for purpose. Your tack will be inspected by the instructor at the rally.

### Stirrups

Stirrups should be of the correct size to suit the rider's boots. They must have 7mm (1/4") clearance on either side of the boot.

### Humane Girths

Humane girths are not permitted in any sport, whether during training or competition. **A humane girth is described as having non-independent straps that will loosen if one of the straps was to break.**