

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE HUNT

INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the North Staffordshire Hunt branch of the Pony Club. We want you and your youngster to get the most from your membership.

This guide will give you useful information on what to wear, how to book, what different activities are, and how you have fun and learn.

What you will need to get started...

As with most clubs we have a dress code so that everyone can feel like they belong. There is a full '**what to wear**' guide which is available under 'useful information'.

<https://branches.pcuk.org/northstaffordshire/useful-information/>

Horses and ponies can be unpredictable animals and as such there are safety elements of our attire that must always be adhered to. Please read the dress code, paying particular attention to the safety wear. If you have any questions, please reach out to a committee member or your instructor.

There is formal attire (which includes the hacking jacket and tie) and informal attire which is the sweatshirt.

The Pony Club branded merchandise can be purchased from www.northstaffs.ponyclub.shop please use discount code pc10.

Communications

Our first method of communication about events, news, rallies, etc is through our Facebook Group. Please request to join by using this link and one of our admins will accept your request. This is only for current members and their parents.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2556594734567892>

Emails will be sent out for more formal information so please ensure that they are arriving in your inbox rather than spam.

The website is full of resources and information so please familiarise yourself and use the resource hub.

Bookings...

All bookings are done via Horse Events which is accessed through our <https://branches.pcuk.org/northstaffordshire/calendar/>

Bookings for activities end the Friday of the week before at 8pm. There is a short window for late entries which does incur a small charge. This enables parents to make amendments and book a rally or training at late notice if their circumstances change.

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Your first rally...

Arrive up to 30 minutes before to get settled, tacked up and know where you are going. Bring your pony's passport, all tack, correct attire and everything your pony needs.

You will be introduced to other members of the group and your instructor will ask you questions about what

Regular venues...

Spot Acre Equestrian, Spot Acre, Stone, ST15 8RN

Round Meadows Equestrian Arena, Round Meadows Farm, Rownall Road, Stoke-On-Trent, ST90BP

Lodge Farm Equestrian Centre, Mill Ln, Wetley Rocks, Stoke-on-Trent ST9 0BN

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What are the different activities...

Type	Description	Dress code
Rally	A rally is a group lesson with a Pony Club Instructor. Rallies can be for flatwork, dressage, showjumping, x-country and more. Information on the particular rally is on the Calendar and on Horse Events.	Formal
Mini-Medley	A mini-medley is a longer rally (usually 1.5hrs) which consists of 30m flatwork, 30m jumping and 30m mounted games. This is a great session for newer members as it introduces you to a variety of disciplines.	Formal
Training	A training session will always be indicated upon booking. It is usually held to prepare for a competitive event.	Informal
Badges	Our Achievement badges provide a fun and interactive way for members to develop their knowledge of horsemanship and give them the opportunity to develop the skills to care for Horses and Ponies to the highest possible standards. More information is here: https://pcuk.org/achievement-badges/	Informal
Tests	The Pony Club Training structure encourages members to take tests which enables them to learn progressively about horse and pony care and riding. https://branches.pcuk.org/newforest/tests-achievement-badges/	Formal
Area Competitions	Every year Pony Club hold an Area 7 competition and you may be invited to attend. These take place for dressage, SJ, eventing and horse and pony care. If you are interested please speak to our chief instructor who will advise you further.	Formal
Shows & Events	Over the course of the year we run competitive events and shows which will be advertised on our calendar and on Horse Events.	Formal
Camp	Every year we hold a junior non-residential camp and a senior residential camp for our members. It is a fantastic opportunity to build confidence, friendships and have fun.	Separate Guide available
Young Equestrians	This is a social group for all members over the age of 12 to engage and connect.	Informal
Social & Learning Events	Throughout the year we hold events such as vet talks, fundraising, social events, craft sessions and more.	Informal