**OBHS – What to Wear at Rallies – 2024**

**MOUNTED RALLY (FLAT AND JUMPING)**

At most of our rallies we have a compliance inspection and at some rallies we will provide scores for Tack and Turnout that go towards end of year trophies and rosettes. New clothing is not expected, but what is worn must be clean, neat and tidy.

**Rider**

Most members ride with a navy OBHS PC polo shirt and a navy or yellow OBHS sweatshirt, but white shirt with PC tie or stock is also acceptable under a sweatshirt or jacket. (Shirt, tie/stock and jacket will be required for ridden tests and competitions.)

* **Hat** – must be tagged with pink Pony Club tag. Must comply with PC hat rule. <https://branches.pcuk.org/quorn/files/2023/12/Hat-Rule-2024.pdf>
* **Hair** – Must be tied back securely, in a safe manner to reduce the risk of hair being caught and to prevent scalp injuries. Hair nets are strongly recommended for long hair.
* **Polo Shirt** – Branch polo shirt or other plain navy or yellow polo shirt– clean. NO T-SHIRTS WITHOUT COLLARS.
* **Sweatshirt –** Branch sweatshirt or other plain navy or yellow sweatshirt.
* **Shirt** – plain pale coloured with collar.
* **Tie** – Pony Club tie or stock.
* **Jacket** – Traditional jackets must be worn with a Pony Club tie or hunting stock. A traditional jacket is one with collar, sleeves and buttons down the front.
* **PC Badge** – with Test Felt on LHS lapel, only if a jacket is worn.
* **NO HOODIES ALLOWED.**
* **Over Jacket** – OBHS or similar style clean and tidy in cold/wet weather.
* **Over trousers** – allowed in wet weather.
* **Gloves** – should be worn.
* **Whip (optional)** – Plain colours preferred. Must be padded for SJ and XC.
* **Jodhpurs/breeches** – Clean. Plain colours preferred.
* **Half chaps or gaiters** – in same colour as boots. Clean.
* **Boots** – black or brown. Clean and no mud on sole (this slips in stirrup).
* **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.
* **Body Protector –** Recommended. The PC Body Protector rule can be found here: <https://pcuk.org/media/3c3hiisf/body-protector-rule-2024.pdf>

**Tack**

Safety is very important, so check carefully for weak stitching, cracked leather and poor fitting before every rally.

New tack is not expected, but what is worn must be fitted correctly, clean and supple.

* **Saddle** – clean, girth straps not worn out, leather supple and well maintained. Correct fit.
* **Girth** – clean and not cracked as this can cause sores.
* **Numnah/saddle cloth** – any plain colour with contrasting piping. OBHS saddle cloths are available here: <http://www.plopshop.co.uk/store/c7/Old_Berkeley_Hunt_%28South%29_Pony_Club.html>
* **Stirrup irons and leathers** – stitching is secure, leather not cracked, no tearing to the holes, peacock stirrup rubbers not perished and fitted the correct way round (rubbers on outside of the foot). Stirrups should not be too wide or too narrow. Allow a finger-width gap (1cm) either side of the foot. All stirrups must be capable of easy releasing. Examples of stirrups that are prohibited, are any with enhanced grip features on stirrup treads, such as deep grooves or rivets, or interlocking boots for the rider. For the avoidance of doubt, magnetic stirrups are not allowed at Pony Club events.
* **Boots/bandages** – if worn. Clean and fitted correctly.
* **Bridle and martingale** – clean and fitting correctly.
* **Bit** – clean and fitting correctly.
* **Studs** – may be useful if jumping on grass.

**Pony**

Ponies should be clean and tidy according to the weather and appropriate for either stable kept or living out. Full bathing of ponies is not required.

* **Eyes** **and muzzle**– sponged
* **Face and forelock** – brushed and tidy.
* **Mane** - brushed.  No mud under the mane.
* **Plaits** – are not required for rallies, but are expected for efficiency test exams and when representing the branch at competitions.
* **Tail** – brushed. Clean for stabled ponies and not too muddy on a wet day for a grass-kept pony. In dry weather it is reasonable to expect the tail to be washed for grass-kept ponies as well as stabled.
* **Dock** – sponged.
* **Hooves** – should be picked out and oiled where appropriate.
* **Coat** – brushed and clean for stabled ponies.  No dried mud for grass-kept ponies. In dry weather, white socks should be as clean as is reasonable.

**CROSS COUNTRY TRAINING**

* For cross-country riding AT ALL LEVELS a jockey skull cap must be worn. As well as meeting the Pony Club hat rule, it must have 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.
* Branch sweatshirt or baselayer or cross country colours. Long sleeves are recommended. Shoulders MUST be covered.
* Medical armband - It is the competitor’s responsibility to wear a PC/BE medical armband during cross-country if they have a medical condition that may impact on their care in the case of an emergency. It is required if not accompanied by a responsible adult who knows the full medical history of the rider.
* Body protector to current standards is compulsory
<https://pcuk.org/media/3c3hiisf/body-protector-rule-2024.pdf>
* Air jackets are only allowed if worn over a normal body protector. In the event of a fall they must be fully deflated or removed before continuing.
* Protective boots for ponies are recommended.
* Martingales/neckstraps are recommended.
* Otherwise as for working rallies.

**UNMOUNTED STABLE MANAGEMENT RALLY inc FRIDAY NIGHT CLUB**

* PC (or plain) Sweatshirt/polo shirt, jeans/jodphurs/tracksuit bottoms.
* PC hoodies may be worn but you may be required to tuck in hoods depending on the activities taking place.
* Jodhpur boots or similar (trainers okay if no horses involved).

**COMPETITIONS**

* Please refer to the current Pony Club rules for the discipline you are entering. These can be found at <https://pcuk.org/officials/rulebooks/>
* Please check with the discipline managers if you have any queries. (These are listed under contact details on the website).
* For those of you wanting to represent your branch in competition, you may be required to turn up to at least one selection event in competition attire, turned out to competition standard including plaiting. This is so that we can check that you comply with the rules for dress and tack and that you can turn out to the high standard expected at this level.