

The Royal Artillery Pony Club

SELECTION POLICY FOR AREA & NATIONAL/ REGIONAL COMPETITIONS

Introduction

During the spring and summer months there are special Pony Club (PC) competitions for all disciplines. These are called 'AREA' Competitions and involve individuals and teams competing against other PC branches within Area 14.

Individuals and teams that are highly placed at AREA, qualify for the National and Regional Championship Competitions that are held throughout the UK in August. All National and Regional Championship competitions are highly prestigious and are considered to be the peak of the competitive year for all PC members.

The standard at all these competitions is high, so it is important that those representing The Royal Artillery are both well prepared and capable of achieving the standard required to compete at this level. Therefore, as a branch we run a large training squad over the spring and early summer months in Dressage, Show Jumping and XC. **Attendance at rallies** is the initial door to joining the Training Squad which is not set in stone. We do ask members to send in their competition records to the Team Manager, showing an interest in taking part in team training and Area competitions. Competition records need to be submitted by 1 May 2025.

Contact details for Area sports:

Lucia Lloyd-Evans – lucialloydevans@yahoo.com for Eventing, Show Jumping and Dressage

Jane Uloth - nollandjane@gmail.com for Tetrathlon and Care

Ed Whittington cedwardwhittington@googlemail.com for Polo

The Selection Process

Selection will be undertaken by The Royal Artillery District Commissioner (DC), Discipline Instructors, and the Team Manager.

Teams and individuals for AREA competitions, will be selected in accordance with the following policy:

1. All team selection will be done as fairly and openly as possible.
2. Please Note: 'The DC is required to certify that the competitor is a member of their branch and that they and their horse/pony are eligible to compete at the level they are entered for at the area competition. The DC must also be satisfied that each member entered is capable and competent enough to take part at the level at which they want to compete.'
3. Selection will take into account both the commitment of the individual and their performance in previous competitions, at rallies and in training.
4. You must fulfil the Area 14 '3 Rally Rule'. Attendance at rallies is the initial opportunity to be invited to join the Team Training Squad.
5. You must be able to demonstrate evidence of regular competitions, at the appropriate level on the horse / pony you are proposing to enter. Competitions can be affiliated, unaffiliated or Pony Club competitions. Your results at these competitions can be used for evidence of suitability to compete at AREA's.
6. You must attend Team Training during the assessment phase and in preparation for AREA's.
7. Other selection criteria will include evidence that you are an active and committed member of The Royal Artillery Pony Club and are involved in a wide range of PC activities.
8. You must be available to compete at National or Regional Championships should you qualify. Please check and secure the dates of Championships before you put yourself forward for the Area competition.

9. If you are selected to represent The Royal Artillery Pony Club at any of these competitions, you are expected to stay regardless of your results for the prize giving. This is usually at the end of the class.
10. All AREA and NATIONAL/REGIONAL competitions require that your horse / pony is vaccinated against influenza (flu) correctly. Please familiarise yourself with the Pony Club Flu Vaccination policy: <https://resources.pcuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/the-pony-club-equine-influenza-vaccination-rule-2024-v7.pdf>
11. We seek to manage expectations during the team selection process. Disappointment is inevitable; however, we hope that those who are unsuccessful in meeting the selection criteria will have a plan for how to achieve it the following year.