

South Trent Branch of the Pony Club
Summer Maxi Camp (11 years+ on 31/8/24)
Monday 29th July to Friday 2nd August 2024
Incorporating Senior Camp, Monday to Tuesday
at Derby College Equestrian Centre, Morley DE7 6DN

Maxi camp has three sections

- 5 day Maxi camp for 11 – 18 year olds,
- 5 day Maxi Junior Staff for 18 – 25yr olds
- 2 day Senior Camp with/without specialist themes

Junior Staff have a normal camp but are expected to help out e.g. assisting with activities, helping members particularly new maxi campers, marking stables.

Senior Camp is for members aged 16+, with B test or competing at or above 95cm or open PC/BD Novice/Elementary dressage. A specific programme will be designed according to applicants' requirements

The venue provides all the basic needs of a pony club camp. There are large indoor stables, indoor and outdoor schools, cross country course up to 80cm, kitchen, and a classroom for use as a base room. There is a short farm hack. There are a finite number of stables available so applications with full fees paid will be accepted on a first come first served basis. There will be a driving display on Wednesday afternoon including the return by popular demand, of the donkeys. Walking with alpacas is a new entertainment for Monday evening. Sam Topham-Pearce will be giving talks on life in the Household Cavalry.

Most riding will be on grass although the outdoor and indoor schools will be used at some time and more if the ground is very hard. Riding sessions will include a selection from flatwork, show jumping, speed riding, dressage, drill ride to music, mounted games, XC, pole and grid work. Our usual popular instructors will be there and they will decide with the ride (group) the detail of each riding session and ensure that both the competitive and non-competitive member is catered for. Daily dismounted sessions, working horses from the ground, demonstration(s), quiz, football or other sport, team competition which runs throughout camp, swimming and ten pin bowling will all be included. All activities are optional although everyone is expected to contribute to all aspects of the team competition in some way e.g. supporting the football team rather than playing. There could be some changes to the activities according to local conditions during camp. Time to chill with friends will not be forgotten either. The week will be intense with safe enjoyment top priority along with pony welfare.

Thus, there are plenty of enjoyable and varied riding and non-riding activities available without the pressure of tests or competitions although some of the training is ideal preparation for both of these.

All supervisors and coaches are DBS checked and have received first aid and safeguarding training. Coaches are qualified.

Members can be residential or non-residential. If non-residential they need to arrive by 9.30am and leave by 4.15pm. Day stables are available at £15/day to include straw bedding and hay. To facilitate working parents non-residential can arrive earlier and stay later, until 6pm but must have a day stable.

Members can bring 2 ponies to camp, one at a time.

Members can miss a day of camp for a significant PC competition or other good reason. Four year old ponies /horses can attend 3 days only. With prior notification by June 30th, the fees will be reduced accordingly.

Members from other branches and PC Centres are welcome by arrangement with their DC/CP.

Attendance options

1. Full residential – member and horse/pony stay
2. Residential horse/pony – member sleeps at home each night, no reduction in cost

3. Non-residential – member and horse/pony attend daily, reduced cost.

If your pony/horse has particular habits or requirements detail them on the application form. You will still be welcome! Examples could include

- never done XC
- Dressage pony that never jumps/MGA pony that only does games
- pulls back when tied up
- gets excited in company
- bites

for the rider

- not used to mucking out
- gets homesick
- lacks confidence
- feels ill in hot weather
- used to private lessons in a menage (not a group in a big field)

The following is some explanation on how camp will run and what members can expect. Please contact Jane Foster, the South Trent DC, if you have any queries (dc.southtrent@pcuk.org 07761881303) or Tony Rollings (treasurer.southtrent@pcuk.org 07773379259).

Stabling

Ponies will be stabled. There is no grazing, therefore, ponies/horses living out must be content to be stabled.

Members usually make A4 stable door plaques (no bigger than A3) sometimes laminated. These say a bit about the rider, the horse and their troop (team) including some drawings or photographs. Obviously they cannot be fully completed until the troop details are published about 2 weeks before camp. Troop points are awarded for all plaques. It is very interesting to look at the plaques and read about the member/horse. Plaques will have to hang or stick as they cannot be stapled to the stable door.

Campers will be able to use Derby College mucking out equipment. It is a good idea to have a clean, easy to carry, smaller bucket for topping up the stable water bucket. If your horse is known to knock its water bucket over have a plan! Hay/haylage and straw bedding will be provided. If you use another type of bedding please bring your own. You will need to bring your own hard feed and feed bucket. Tack will be stored in your accommodation but bring a saddle stand and chest to keep all other items in. Chests can be stored outside each stable which also has a rug rail.

At the end of camp leave only clean bedding, banked up, in the stables with the floor swept.

Horse Arrival

When your pony/horse arrives on Monday between 8.15 and 9am please present to the vet, Mrs Anna Maxwell, who will be stationed near the hay barn before going to your stable. Have the pony's passport ready so that flu vaccinations (annual boosters) can be checked. The pony will also be checked for contagious disease and soundness.

Check that shoes will last camp easily and that tack fits well and is in good order as we have no farrier or saddler (to do repairs) in camp. Check ponies do not have intestinal worms before coming to camp and ensure they are in good health and fit enough to cope with 3 hours work each day.

Tack will be checked for fitting and safety on the first ride by coaches.

Please take all trailers and horse boxes home if not being used to sleep in as parking is limited. Members' cars and visitors are asked to park in front of the indoor school.

Riding

All ponies/horses should be at least 5yrs old due to the amount of work. Four year old ponies are accepted but should attend for 3 days only (any 3 days). Those new to camp often do not realise how fit they and their horses need to be to get the most out of the instruction. **The last few years have seen a significant decline in the level of fitness of ponies and riders. If your pony is not fit it will soon tire** and make camp much less enjoyable for

both of you. A more experienced pony/horse can sometimes lead to a more enjoyable camp although inexperienced ponies/horses and riders learn a lot.

Groups will have a variety of coaches over the camp week.

If someone cannot do one of the activities, e.g. pony too strong for XC, rider doesn't jump, an alternative activity will be provided. Everyone should have a balanced programme over the week. Rides consist of approximately 6 riders who will do 14 hours of riding under instruction. There will be no riding on Wednesday afternoon.

If there is sufficient demand from those jumping over 80cm XC a session at a recognised XC venue will be arranged for Tuesday morning. Parents will be expected to provide transport.

If it rains heavily, the ground is very hard or there are other unexpected circumstances then suitable alterations will be made to the programme.

There is also one hour of dismounted instruction each day

Catering

All those preparing food will hold the level 2 Food Hygiene Certificate. Vegetarians can be catered for but other special diets need to be discussed with Sally Rollings, camp matron. Drinks (squash or water), fruit and biscuits will be available at all times. Drinks will be taken out to the rides in the morning. Breakfast and lunch will be provided by camp staff but the evening meal will be bought in.

Camping

Members will sleep in their own caravans, horse boxes/trailers or tents. Do ensure that outdoor accommodation is storm proof. It is prudent to share but not to overcrowd so do ask around who is going. You need lots of storage as well – see kit list.

A list of who is sleeping where must be declared at the start of camp **after approval by the relevant parents**, to Sally Rollings. Do not move accommodation without informing Sally who will then follow up with parents to see if the move is approved.

If you are under 18 and need to go off site then you must go with a parent and inform camp staff beforehand. It is polite if 18+ members inform camp staff they are going off site and are asked to return by 10pm. It is quite a distraction for campers to leave camp so please try to avoid dental appointments, etc. These guidelines are for everyone's safety, enjoyment and well-being.

Bed time for 11-12yrs is 9pm, 13-14yrs it is 9.30pm and 15yrs+ it is 10pm.

Members need to sleep although they dispute this fact, and so after 9pm there must be total quiet. Accidents are far more likely to happen with tired members who also miss out on the fun. It is particularly unpleasant if a member becomes bad tempered through being tired.

Please note that no dogs or alcohol are allowed on site and the whole area is non-smoking/vaping.

The farm including equipment, the livery stable yard, some other buildings and the main college site are out of bounds.

Patrols take place by approved, DBS checked staff throughout the night.

Evening Entertainment

There will be an opportunity to go fun swimming (or for a shower as there are no on-site showers) at Ilkeston Victoria Park Leisure Centre and 10 Pin Bowling in Ilkeston too. Football and Wacky Races are popular but other non-horsey entertainment may be provided instead. The Quiz will be on horsey and non-horsey topics. More details will be available nearer the time.

Visiting

When visiting please help the camp staff with their many tasks e.g. take juice to rides, poo pick the riding areas, wash up etc. Always inform a member of the camp staff that you are on site. Family and friends are particularly

welcome on Thursday 7 – 8.30pm and Friday afternoon from 2pm to watch the final ride of the week and the presentation. Visitors are asked

- not to interfere with the activities taking place
- to park in the designated area by the indoor school
- to take care with young children brought into camp
- to observe any safety and safeguarding rules
- not to smoke, bring alcohol or dogs

For many members camp is better with minimal parental attendance.

Do not disturb the ponies in their stables unnecessarily as they need to rest. No-one is to be in the stable area after 7pm except troop leaders and camp staff.

Troop Competition

The troop (team) competition includes stable care, tack and turnout, use of initiative and non-horsey activities but does not include riding ability. It does not start in earnest until Tuesday morning to give campers chance to get to grips with what is expected but the first chance to earn points will be on Monday evening. To be a troop leader a member needs to be aged 16, 17 or 18 and have attended at least 2 maxi camps in the last 3 years.

Maxi Camp Daily Routine

7.00 am	Tea or squash, biscuits in base room
7.05	Roll call and meeting
7.15	Feed
8.15	Hay, water, muck out, groom
8.30	Breakfast, change for riding
9.30	Tack up and ride
9.45	Inspection
12.15pm	Brush down, check hay, check water, skip-out
12.30	Lunch
1.15	Stable Management
2.15	Tack up and ride
3.30	Brush down
4.00	Clean tack, skip out, set fair, full haynet, water
6.00	Feed
6.30	Evening meal – time may vary according to evening entertainment
8.30	Troop Leaders and Junior staff only check stables
9.00	Lights out for 11-12yr olds and start of quiet time
9.30	Lights out 13-14yr olds+
10.00	Lights out 15+

Day members with residential ponies need to arrive at 7.30am and leave between 6 and 8pm. They can eat all their meals in camp.

Day members with **non**-residential ponies need to arrive by 9.30am and leave by 4.15pm (extended day 8am to 6pm with a day stable). Lunch is provided. Bring enough clothes for all weathers, a grooming kit, water bucket and haynet and a trailer or similar for the pony during breaks from riding or book a day stable.

Maxi Camp Weekly Routine

Sunday 3-5pm or Monday morning	Set up accommodation, check stable
Monday 8.15-9am	Ponies/Horses arrive and checked in by the vet
Monday 9.30am	Welcome -downstairs classroom

Monday 9.45am	Tack up and follow daily routine
Monday evening	Quiz -first part of the troop competition, Alpaca walking
Tuesday	Follow daily routine,
Tuesday evening	10 pin bowling
Wednesday	Follow daily routine , Driving display, Household Cavalry talk
Wednesday evening	Swimming
Thursday	Follow daily routine
Thursday evening	Whacky Races - Family and friends welcome 7 – 8.30pm
Friday	Follow daily routine – family and friends welcome from 2pm. Presentation 4.30pm

Caravans and tents can be removed early on Saturday morning if preferred

Leave the site in as perfect condition as possible. In particular leave no rubbish and the stable clean.

Details of rides, stable numbers, ride programme, menu and any other information will be sent out in July along with medical and help forms.

Make sure your friends have an emergency number for you as well as giving it on the forms.

Bring as few valuables into camp as possible, look after your stuff and come determined to enjoy yourself!

Costs, Kit List and Application form – see separate documents