

South Trent Branch of the Pony Club

Spring Maxi Camp (11 – 25 years on 31/8/25)

Incorporating Senior Camp
Residential or non-residential

Tuesday April 8th to Wednesday April 9th 2025

at Pickering Grange Equestrian Centre, Ellistown LE67 1EZ

This 2 day Spring camp is to help prepare members for the summer season ahead. It also serves as a taster experience for those who have not yet attended residential summer camp.

Pickering Grange is a well known competition centre providing indoor and outdoor schools with show jumps and arena eventing style XC. The stables are permanent temporaries sited in the box park. All meals, bedding and hay/haylage are included in the price. There is a social room known as the Piggery, next to the stables and box park where we shall meet, eat and use for some dismounted activities. Toilets and washing facilities are next to the Piggery and the indoor schools.

As this camp is only 2 days there will not be a troop competition but high standards of stable management are still required and staff will check these standards are met.

Maxi Senior Camp is for those looking to compete at 90cm+ or equivalent in dressage or take a high level test B, B+ or AH. The programme will be tailored to the applicants.

There will be 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.

Vegetarians and other dietary needs can usually be catered for

Attendance options

1. Full residential – member and horse/pony stay
2. Residential horse/pony – member sleeps at home, no reduction in cost
3. Non-residential – member and horse/pony attend daily, reduced cost.

If non-residential, option 3, members need to arrive by 9.40am and leave by 4pm. Day stables may be available at £20/day to include bedding, hay/haylage and breakfast. To facilitate working parents non-residential members can arrive at 7.30am and stay until 5.30pm but must have a day stable.

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 or Tony Rollings.

Stabling

Ponies will be stabled. There is no grazing, therefore, ponies/horses living out must be content to be stabled. 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 and or haylage and shavings bedding will be provided. If you use another type of bedding please bring your own. Straw is not allowed. You will need to bring your own hard feed and feed bucket. Tack can be stored in a spare stable or your own accommodation. Bring a saddle stand and a chest/trolley to keep all other items in.

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

Residential Horse Arrival

Residential ponies/horses should arrive between 8.30am and 9.30am on Wednesday. Before unloading put the bed down, fill your water bucket and put up a small haynet. Also, show the pony's/horse's passport to the stable manager/vet so that flu vaccinations (annual boosters) can be checked. The pony will also be checked for signs of contagious disease.

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.

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

Trailers can be left in the box park for the two days.

Riding

All riding is on a surface. 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. **If your pony is not fit it will soon tire** and make camp much less enjoyable for both of you. However, a very excitable horse can be daunting. A more experienced pony/horse can lead to a more enjoyable camp although inexperienced ponies/horses and riders learn a lot.

If someone cannot do one of the activities, an alternative activity will be provided. Everyone should have a balanced programme. There will be approximately 3 hours of riding under instruction each day and one hour of dismounted instruction per day

Catering

All meals are being provided by Pickering Grange. There will be 3 meals a day plus juice and biscuits available at most times.

Camping

Members will sleep in their own caravans, horse boxes/trailers or tents. Do ensure that outdoor accommodation is storm proof. Eleven year olds must be in shared accommodation. It is prudent to share but not to overcrowd so do ask around who is going.

Where possible avoid going off site. Under 18's can only leave with a parent. Please inform Sally Rollings if you need to go off site.

Bed time for 11-14yrs is 9pm and 15yrs+ 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 alcohol is not allowed on site and the whole area is non-smoking/non vaping. The livery stable yard and most other buildings are out of bounds.

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 6.30pm except camp staff.

Maxi Camp Daily Routine

7.00 am	Tea or squash, biscuits in Piggery
7.05	Roll call and meeting
7.15	Feed, small haynet, water, muck out, groom
8.30	Breakfast, change for riding
9.40	Tack up and ride
10.00	First ride
11.00	Break followed by second ride
12.15pm	Brush down, small haynet, check water, skip-out
12.30pm	Lunch
1.15	Stable Management
2.15	Tack up for third ride
3.30	Brush down, small haynet, check water, skip-out
3.45	Clean tack
5.00	Skip out, set fair, full haynet, water(leave spare full haynet by stable if likely to be required overnight)
5.30	Feed

6.00	Evening meal
7.00	Evening entertainment
8.30	Final check of stables
9.00	Bed time for 11-14yr olds
10.00	Bed time 15+

Day members with residential ponies need to arrive at 7.15am and leave between 5.45pm and 8pm. They can eat all their meals in camp.

Day members with **non**-residential ponies to arrive by 9.40am and leave by 4pm or have a day stable and arrive 7.30am onwards and leave around 6pm. Show the pony's passport to the stable manager/DC upon. Lunch and haylage is provided. They will need to provide a trailer or similar for the pony during breaks from riding or book a day stable.

Bring clothes for all weathers, a grooming kit, water bucket and haynet.

Caravans and tents to be removed on Wednesday afternoon/early evening

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, and any other information will be sent out in March along with a medical form.

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