

Code of Conduct for Members

The Pony Club is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all its members and the highest ideals of sportsmanship, citizenship, and loyalty to create strength of character and self-discipline.

The Pony Club believes that it is important that Members, Parents / Guardians, Officials, Volunteers, and Coaches should, always, show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of others.

Therefore, members are encouraged to be always open and to share any concerns or complaints they may have about any aspect of the Pony Club with the Branch or Centre Safeguarding Officer.

Branches and Centres should offer a positive experience for members where they can learn new things in a safe and positive environment.

As a Member you can expect to:

- Be safe and happy in your chosen activity.
- Be listened to, respected, and treated fairly.
- Have privacy.
- Be protected from harm.
- Participate on an equal basis, appropriate to their ability.
- Experience competition and the desire to win.
- Be believed and supported.
- Be able to ask for help.
- Have your concerns taken seriously and acted on as appropriate.

What conduct is expected of you as a Member?

In return, as a Member of The Pony Club, you are expected to abide by the Code of Conduct to keep yourself safe and

- Ask for help.
- Report any concerns about safeguarding poor practice / conduct you have to the appropriate person at your Branch or Centre.
- Be friendly, supportive and show respect to coaches, Officials, and Volunteers.
- Be friendly, supportive and show respect to other members on your team, members on opposing teams and other members of The Pony Club.
- Take care of and show respect to your horses / ponies in line with the Equine Welfare Policy.
- Play fairly and be trustworthy.
- Behave and listen to all instructions given by Coaches, Officials, and Volunteers.

- Abide by the rules of The Pony Club and its Sports, and accept the decisions made by Coaches, Officials, and Volunteers.
- If you need to query a decision you do not understand, do so politely and listen to the explanation.
- Do not cheat, be rude, violent, or aggressive.
- Refrain from using foul or abusive language.
- Refrain from bullying, getting involved in discrimination of any kind, or inappropriate peer pressure, including pushing others into something they do not want to do. This includes face to face interactions or using social media or technology.
- Do not smoke, vape, possess, or consume alcohol or drugs, of any kind, whilst in attendance at Pony Club events or whilst representing your Club.
- Do not engage in sexual activity whilst in attendance at Pony Club activities.
- Do not criticise Officials, Coaches, Volunteers, Staff, Members, or parents / guardians in person, on social networking sites or by the use of text messages / emails.
- If under 18 years, you must not leave an organised event unless accompanied by your parent/guardian or by a Pony Club official.
- Be aware that it is unacceptable, and may be considered a possible assault, to photograph or video an injured person.

Any minor misdemeanours and general misbehaviour will be addressed by the coach, official or volunteer and reported to the designated person as appropriate. More serious or persistent behaviour may result in disciplinary action and potential termination of membership. Parents/Persons with parental responsibility will be informed at all stages.

Member's name: **Membership No.:**

Member's Signature:

Date of Signature: