

SPC Big Camp

21st - 24th July 2025.

For our 9 & Overs.

Glaisters Farm, Kirkgunzeon DG2 8JT

Wed 9th July
2025

Issue #1/2025

Pony Club Camp

Highlight of the Summer?

For Many of our members Pony Club is the Highlight of the Summer! However, with such diversity across our growing Pony Club everyone will bring something different to Camp & will take different things away from the experience. As we plan ahead to make it the best camp ever it is a good time to think about our aims. If you think we've missed anything out let us know!

1. to encourage young people to ride and to learn to enjoy all kinds of sport connected with horses and riding
2. to provide instruction in riding and horsemanship
3. to teach our PC members the proper care of their animals
4. to promote the highest ideals of sportsmanship, citizenship and loyalty, thereby cultivating strength of character and self-discipline
5. to offer a safe and productive learning experience for members of all riding abilities and personal strengths
6. to offer opportunities for members to experience new and unusual equine disciplines
7. to develop existing skills and learn new skills.
8. to make new friends.



Tetrathlon @ Camp 2024



Some of our Big Campers 2024.

What are you letting yourself in for?

The Basics....

For the third year running, the Gibson & Young Family welcome SPC members 9 years and over to bring their pony to Big Camp at Glaisters Farm, Kirkgunzeon from 8am (earliest) on the 21st of July until 2pm on the 24th of July. To find us follow sat nav for postcode **DG2 8JT** then keep left and follow the concrete road to the top of the hill. Glaisters Farm stabling is at the end of the road. Some of you will know it as the Christmas Tree Farm if you have visited to collect a tree in December.

At Glaisters we are able to provide basic serviced accommodation for groups of 2 or 3 per room up to 18 campers in total - with ample permanent toilets/showers and kitchen/dining facilities. For each of our four legged campers we provide temporary indoor stabling with room for all ponies and tack to be housed under one roof. This means if the weather isn't kind the show can still go on in a safe, sheltered and well supervised area.

On each whole day we aim to pack in 2 rides (most days), 1 stable management session, 3 meals, a planned evening activity and some all-important free time for catching up with friends. We guarantee you won't be without something to do....

Most of your riding will take place in a field a short traffic-free ride away from Camp HQ - ideal distance for warming up and cooling down after a busy coaching session. We will have 2 short dressage arenas, one long arena, a showjumping area and a larger undulating area for practising XC techniques. In the other direction from HQ there is endless off-road riding available in the Xmas Tree plantations for a wind-down session or even some fast work.

For your peace of mind, we can guarantee the following:

Fully supervised stabling and camping, with resident Camp Manager and camp mums/dads. All meals, snacks and drinks included (and any special dietary requirements catered for) provided by a dedicated team of parents. Friendly, level-assessed instruction for riding and horse and pony care sessions by experienced, qualified coaches. Entertainment, including a campfire (subject to weather), rounders and a BBQ! Get ready to have some fun!

Parent Helpers

How we make camp happen!

Sarah Burton/Trine Campbell

Here you will find details of the roles that we will need to fill with parent, family, friend volunteers.

Page 2

What to bring?

Packing Lists Galore

Sam Barrick

Here you will find the definitive list of all the bits and bobs you will need to pack to get the most out of camp

Page 5

Arriving at Camp

What, where, when?

Sam Barrick

Here you will find an outline of how we get you in.... and out.

Page 7

Sarah Burton

The most essential part of a great camp: the helpers.

Parents, family, friends, Camp needs you!

Camp doesn't happen without the help of our parents, family and friends – it is run by the parents for their children. Camp Fees cover the cost of temporary stabling hire, coaching, and breakfast/lunch. Everything else (including time) is gifted by volunteers, therefore, campers are expected to commit time to the preparation and/or running of Pony Club Camp. E.g 1 shift to prepare for camp and 1 shift in the running of camp per camper. During Camp there are 4 roles to cover each day: see below. Please look at these and consider which you can help with. We look to share these across all families of the children attending camp to share the load and the fun!

This year we have already invited all parents to a pre-camp meeting which gave you more details and the chance to ask question.

We are also on the look-out for any parents who see themselves as entertainers or have special skills that they'd like to share. Perhaps you'd rather support Camp by volunteering your time to provide a completely non-pony related evening activity. We're all about balance. Last year we had tetrathlon taster sessions, rounders and a duck race (guddling). So please have a think and let us know if there is anything you'd like to put forward as an idea or can help with.

We will put each roll up on our signup.com page so that everyone can see what the roles are, what you have volunteered for and what we still need help with. A link will be circulated once all roles are created.



The New Pony Club Discipline: Guddling 2024.

Family Helper Roles During Camp – The Glue. We need you.....

Night Shift. We need 3 parents/guardians to be resident each overnight from 6pm – 8am. Main responsibilities:

1. Overseeing evening activities
2. Enforcing Bedtime Routine
3. Ensuring that campers stay safe after lights out.
4. Waking up Campers.

Morning Shift. We need 2 parents each day from 8am until 1pm. Main Responsibilities:

1. Serving Breakfast
2. Chaperone Ride
3. Serving AM Snack
4. Serving Lunch

Afternoon Shift. We need 2-3 parents each day from 1pm – 6pm. Main responsibilities:

1. Chaperoning PM Ride
2. Serving PM Snack
3. Preparing & Serving Dinner

In addition to these essential roles we are looking for willing Senior Pony Club Members and Others Enthusiastic people who can come in and help to organise games and other activities for Members once the riding has ended.

Note times are roughly correct. They will flex depending on the day. Sarah will coordinate.

Caterers

The most important helpers? Discuss....

Each day we will need 2-3 parent helpers to prepare and serve an evening meal as part of the afternoon shift. The food may be prepared on site or delivered each day by parents according to a pre-determined menu.

It is important that all caterers have and are aware of the appropriate hygiene standards necessary to store, prepare and serve food safely at camp.

As always donations of homebaking and snacks will be gratefully received to sustain the kids between meals (and the farmer).

Camp Contacts:

Who you gonna call?

Pastoral Care:

Trine Campbell: 07548503561

Resident, On-Duty and first point of contact for the duration of mini Camp. Responsible for the general discipline, rules, child protection, catering and all the domestic aspects of camp life. Qualified First Aider.

Stable Manager:

Sam Barrick: 07528099451

Responsible for all stabling arrangements, reporting to Chief Instructor. Manages the supply of hay and bedding, muck heap, mucking out and all safety precautions. Checks the health and wellbeing of all the animals in the stables and in consultation with Chief Instructor calls the vet if necessary. Holds a veterinary first aid kit and the camp farrier's phone number.

Chief Instructor:

Justine Hunter-Brown

Responsible for assessing the ability of campers and their ponies to provide the appropriate tuition whilst ensuring that health and safety policies are adhered to.

District Commissioner:

Sarah Burton: 07990550040

Ultimate responsibility. Should only be contacted during camp in an emergency if unable to get hold of Trine.

Camp Rules!

Mobile Phones & Other Devices



No mobile phones, cameras or other screened devices to Pony Club Camp for camp unless agreed by the parent with Trine.

Following on from Camp 2024 there will be no mobile phones, cameras or any other devices that can record, upload or download material.

It is our hope that camp will provide more than enough for our campers to be busy with without the need for devices.

Minor exceptions can be agreed with Trine for a short periods of time but there is strictly no sharing of photos or other location information on social media.

Photography

Parent helpers will be encouraged to take plenty of photographs of all the campers during their stay. These will be circulated to all parents and campers on the Whatsapp group

Keeping in Touch

If you will find it difficult not to be in touch with your children during camp there are a couple of options:

1. **Helper Spots:** Please look at the jobs that we need parents to help with during camp and sign up so that you can catch up at the same time as helping make camp great.
2. **Sam Barrick:** Sam is the first point of contact during camp and our lead on pastoral care, so if you or your child do need to get in touch with each other then please speak to Sam, drop Sam a message or call her if it is urgent. If you think your child may be homesick, please talk to Sam to discuss how you would like us to handle the situation, should it occur.

Welfare & Child Protection

If there are any issues that you think we need to know about to ensure the welfare & safety of your child, you must contact our Safeguarding and Welfare Officer - Sally Dodds on 07900 956286. All information will be treated in strictest confidence.

Medication & Medical Conditions

We must be informed of all medical conditions and any medication needs. This information will be collected via our camp forms - please disclose fully.

Emergency Contacts

All Campers will need to provide two 24/7 emergency contacts. These contacts must be able to take important decisions for your child and your horse/pony. This is collected on the medical forms.



Please provide details of medication requirements.



On arrival your pony must be checked by Sam Barrick prior to unloading.... You won't be expected to wear tweed!

Pony Health & Welfare

Dos & Don'ts

Before Camp;

1. Ensure your pony is up to date with Flu & Tetanus vaccinations according to PC rules. You must present passport prior to unloading your pony at camp.
2. Make sure your pony is fit enough to manage the workload of camp.
3. If you have any concerns about your horse or pony's health or soundness please get it checked by your vet. If in doubt, do not bring it to camp.
4. Make sure your horse/pony's feet are well trimmed or shod in advance.

If there are any health issues with your horse that we feel require the services of a vet, we will try to contact you first. If we are unable to contact you we will contact your nominated veterinary practice. If neither you or your vet are contactable we will contact our own vet and you will be liable for the associated costs.

Please do not bring any horse or pony to camp who is showing any signs of infectious disease. This list is not exhaustive, but you must not bring any horse or pony with a cough, nasal discharge, ocular discharge, ringworm, unexplained swellings.

ON ARRIVAL DO NOT UNLOAD YOUR HORSE OR PONY UNTIL SAM BARRICK HAS HEALTH CHECKED IT



Health & Safety is a priority in organising camp and we need parents and campers to play their part.

Health & Safety

Rules & Expectations for a safe and enjoyable camp.



Be familiar with your PC theory and use what you have learnt.

There are a number of camp rules in place to ensure that children remain safe and supervised not only whilst working with horses, but also when using the facilities provided and staying overnight. Please talk to your children about these rules ahead of camp and ensure that they understand the expectations.

Briefing: Shortly after arrival there will be a briefing for all campers. Health & Safety rules will form an important part of this and all campers should pay close attention and do their best to follow the rules set out for the duration of camp. But to give you a headstart some of the main ones, which can bear repetition, are listed here.

General:

1. Know the rules and if in doubt, ask.
2. Pay attention to which areas you are allowed access to and do not enter any other areas.
3. Glaisters is a working farm and someone's home – please leave gates as you find them.
4. ALL dogs must be kept on leads.

Yard:

1. No access to stable area without appropriate footwear.
2. No access to stable area outwith scheduled hours.
3. Stabling is allocated on arrival no switching unless at the direction of the Stable Manager – Sam Barrick.
4. If you see something that you think might be dangerous or become dangerous – do not be a hero! Tell an adult helper immediately.

Overnight:

1. Rooms will be allocated. Please don't swap unless confirmed with Sarah.
2. Your camp timetable will stipulate an agreed curfew. Between these hours you must remain in your allocated sleeping area. You are only permitted to leave your sleeping accommodation to go directly to one of the Adults staying over night
3. Be kind and considerate to each other.

PARENTS, PLEASE ENSURE YOUR CHILDREN ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE OVERNIGHT RULES. WE DON'T WANT ANY ONE GETTING LOST AT NIGHT

- Sarah Burton

Camp Clothing

Each year we choose a colour for our official camp clothing. This year it is Burgandy. Camp clothing will be supplied by Rostrum Sportswear. All orders are now in. Please get in touch with Trine if there are any questions.

Camp Forms

Thank you to those who have already completed the medical forms. For those we have yet to receive we will circulate by email. Please ensure they are returned to Stewartry@pcuk.org before the start of camp.

Sam Barrick

Tack and turnout – things to know, things to check

Rider Dress Code

The Pony Club Dress Code is summarised on our branch website and the expectation at camp is that riding dress will be as per the dress code for rallies:

- **Clothing** – When mounted, Members should wear a Branch sweatshirt, plain-coloured jodhpurs, a suitable plain-coloured polo shirt.
- **Footwear** – Only standard riding or jodhpur boots with a fairly smooth, thin sole and a well defined square cut heel may be worn. Plain black or brown half chaps may be worn with jodhpur boots of the same colour. No other footwear will be permitted.
- **Jewellery** – No jewellery must be worn.

- **Hair** – Must be tied back securely – in a hairnet, if necessary.
- **Hats and Body Protectors** – These are to be in accordance with guidance and meet recommended Safety Standards as detailed in the Rulebooks.

Some of these items have safety implications and attention must be given to any applicable standards and their condition on the day. Hats must be tagged to show that they meet the current PC standards and body protectors although not required for activities other than XC are still recommended. If used these must meet the current PC standards. Gloves are not a requirement but are recommended for riding and handling. Hoodies are a popular clothing item but we wish to remind you that hooded clothing should not be worn for riding.

In the event of warm weather (yes please) riders need not wear their sweatshirts and a shirt or polo shirt is fine as long as it covers the shoulders as a minimum.



Stewartry Sweatshirts are currently available for purchase from Wainwrights Screenprints or contact Kirsty regarding pre-loved sweatshirts.

And for your pony.....

The emphasis here is mainly on safety.

- Plain, dark coloured correctly fitting tack
- Numnahs / Saddle Cloth – Any solid colour is permitted. Contrasting piping is permitted.
- For safety reasons leather bridles are recommended.
- Humane girths are not permitted. A humane girth is described as having non-independent straps that will loosen if one of the straps was to break.
- All tack should be in a good state of repair – check the condition and the stitching regularly.
- Tack should be cleaned and checked weekly and also before each rally.
- Stirrups should be of the correct size to suit the rider's boots. They must have 7mm (1/4") clearance on either side of the boot. Note stirrups which connect the boot and the stirrup magnetically are not allowed and interlocking boot soles and stirrup treads are not allowed
- Grass reins and balanced support reins are permitted at Pony Club rallies and competitions jumping up to 50cm or Walk and Trot Tests.

A word on Spurs

May only be worn by those who have passed the appropriate test and are displaying the appropriate hat tag.

A word on whips

What to use and how to use it

SJ & XC Whip:

- The maximum length of the "Whip" is 70cm and must be no less than 45cm.
- The "Contact area", is considered to be 2/5's (two fifths) of the overall length of the "Whip" and must be covered with a "Pad".
- There must be no "binding" within 17 centimetres of the end of the "Pad".
- The "Pad" must be smooth, with no protrusion or raised surface, and be made of shock absorbing material throughout its circumference such that it gives a compression factor of at least 6mm.
- There is to be no wording, advertising or personalisation of any kind on the "Pad".

Dressage Whip may be of any length.

At all times, the whip must only be used:

- For a good reason, as an aid to encourage the horse forward.
- At an appropriate time, namely when the horse is reluctant to go forward under normal aids of seat and legs.
- In the right place, namely down the shoulder or behind the leg but never overarm.
- With appropriate severity.
- No more than twice for any one incident

Campers Packing List

Riding Hat - skull cap preferable
Hairnet & Hairbands
Pony Club Sweatshirt
Tie
Pony Club Badge
Riding Gloves
Collared Shirts or Polo Shirts x 4 (White or yellow pref)
Waterproof Jacket
Body Protector - To current standard
Jodphurs/breeches x 4 (pref white, cream, navy or black)
Riding Show Jacket
Riding Socks x 4 pairs
Riding Boots/jodphur boots/chaps/jodphur clips
Whip - if used. See whip rules.

Clothing suitable for yard work & play in all weathers x 1 days
Underwear and socks x 4 days
Wellies
Trainers
Sports Clothing suitable for outdoor activities in all weathers
Nightwear

Toiletries
Medication
Completed Medical Form
Towel & Cloth
Suncream & Sunhat
Fly Repellent

Torch
Wrist Watch
Boot Cleaning Kit
Plastic Bag for Dirty Laundry
Sleeping Bag
Pillow
Single Fitted Sheet

Re-usable Water bottle - labelled clearly
Camping Chair
Manual of Horsemanship
Notepad
Pen
Reading Material

Horse/Pony Packing List

Horse Passport
Headcollar and Leadrope
Saddle inc stirrups
Bridle
Jumping Bit
Dressage Bit
Girth
Numnahs x 2 (pref navy, brown, black or white)
Grooming Kit
Fly Spray
Washing Bucket
Sweat Scraper
Tack Cleaning kit - cloth, saddle soap, sponge, towel min
Stable rug - if used
Sweat Rug/Cooler
Exercise boots - if used

Wheelbarrow/skip
Shavings Fork
Shovel
Yard Brush
Gloves

Water Bucket
Feed Bucket
Haynet
Hay x 4 days
Feed for AM & PM (7 feeds) if possible made up in bags

There is a link on the Stewartry Pony Club Branch Website for a printable version of this checklist with spaces for any extras that you may need to add for your own child or pony. Please ensure that all equipment is clearly labelled prior to attending camp. Please pack with your child so that they know where everything is and what everything is intended for..... particularly the dirty laundry bag!!!

Arriving at Camp – from 8am Monday 21st July**Trailer Parking**

Prior to arrival at Glaisters Farm please take a look at the site layout so you can see where you are heading with your trailers & trucks and please do not arrive before 1pm.



On arrival follow signage to trailer parking. You will be stopped at 'check-in' as you pass the stables and asked to register with Sam. From there follow arrows to parking and form two rows facing the direction of exit. Please park up as tight as possible to allow everyone a spot.

Time will be tight on the first day, can all riders and their ponies arrive dressed & ready to tack up and go.

On arrival:

1. **Register your arrival with Sam (Stable Manager) at 'check-in' as you pass Stabling - DO NOT UNLOAD YOUR PONY.** Sam will check your paperwork, health check your pony and give you stable, room, troop & tack spot details. It may be busy, please be patient.
2. **Park your trailer** - see picture for directions. You may leave trailer at your own risk.
3. **Prepare your stable & unload pony** - Check bedding, provide haynet and water before settling your pony in.
4. **Unload Tack & Feeding** - each camper will have a numbered barrier for holding their saddle and the 2 cubicles on either side for kit & feed.
5. **Unload Campers Kit** - Sam will have given you a room number. Check out the bunk room picture to find it. Make your bed with your own fitted sheet over the top of existing.
6. **Campers Briefing** - Sam will expect all campers to be in the stables at 9:15 for briefing.
7. **Ready to ride** - 10pm
8. **Vacate Trailer Parking** - All vehicles not being left for the duration should leave parking between 10.30am - 11.30 before ponies return to the yard.

**Departure Instructions Thursday 24th July :**

Campers will have been prompted to pack up their rooms In theory.

1130: Parents should arrive at the riding field to help pack up all the jumps, dressage arenas and ropes. They are very welcome to come and watch the combined training but please park in the field.

1200: Or once the field is tidy, please can parents continue on to Glaisters and collect their child's items from their overnight accommodation.

Camp Awards

At Big Camp there are 4 awards given:

1. Best Troop
2. Best Camper
3. Best First Time Camper
4. Best Turned Out

The Camp Awards will be held once camp has been tidied up at around 5.30pm

12.30 - 13.30: Can each parent take on one of the tidy up roles detailed on sign up to ensure that Glaisters is left as found.

14.00 - Camp Awards.

14.15 - Head home for a monster sleep. Retrospective prizes for any camper who makes it home without falling asleep.....

Each Camper will be put into a troop at the beginning of camp. Throughout Camp there will be various opportunities for all campers to acquire points for their troop. These points will be totalled up to give a winning Troop at the end of Camp.

During stable management sessions there will be opportunities to work towards PC badges which will also be awarded at the end of camp.

Tidy Up Roles

Tidy up roles:

1. **Rooms.** We need 1 parent per room (8): strip mattress protector and grey sheet and leave in bags at door of HQ; flush toilet; remove rubbish; ensure no items left behind; lights, appliances and sockets switched off.
2. **Kitchen, Dining Room, Communal Toilets:** We need 5 parents to ensure that kitchen, dining room and communal toilets are left tidy: clean & put away dishes; clean surfaces; remove all food; leave all towels, cloths, table coverings in bags at door to HQ, all appliances switched off; fridges left open; flush toilets, remove rubbish; and switch off lights.
3. **Stables and Tack Area:** We need 5 parents to ensure that stables and shed are empty of bedding, hay and swept out with no items left behind following departure of ponies.