

# HORSE RIDERS CODE OF CONDUCT

I understand that riding at any standard has inherent risk and that all horses may react unpredictably on occasions.

I may fall off and could be injured. I accept that risk.

I understand that instructions are given for my safety and agree to follow instructions given to me by staff and escorts at the riding establishment.

I reserve the right not to ride a horse allocated to me and may request a change in instructor.

I agree that I will not under any circumstances mount or dismount my allocated horse without assistance from a member of staff.

I understand that wearing an appropriate riding hat may reduce the severity of an injury should an accident happen and agree that I will always wear a riding hat that meets the current British Standards whilst riding, leading and grooming horses at the riding establishment. I understand it is my choice whether or not I wear a body protector.

I understand that the riding establishment will make decisions based on information I give them and agree to always be honest and volunteer information about:

- my abilities and riding experience
- any previous riding accidents
- any medical condition(s) which may affect my ability to ride

I understand that children are at particular risk around horses and agree that I will keep any children that I am responsible for, under close supervision when they are not under supervision of the riding escorts during a riding experience.

I understand that the riding establishment may refuse my request to ride for safety and operational reasons.

I understand that competing carries enhanced risk over and above general riding and agree that if I chose to participate in any competition or event, it is up to me to ensure that I have the experience and ability to ride the activity or course including any jumps that form part of it. If I am in any doubt, I will use my judgement and experience and not enter.

I agree that I must give the riding establishment due notice of at least 48 hours should I cancel a booked ride for any reason or the full value will be chargeable. If a deposit has been paid, this is transferable within a 6 month period but not refundable.

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## **Attire for Yard Duties and Riding, including PPE**

### **Attire for Yard Duties**

- Yard boots – these have a thicker sole than riding boots, so they will keep your feet warmer in winter than riding boots. They will also provide grip.
- Clean jodhpurs / trousers
- Waterproof trousers in adverse weather
- All coats / tops must be done up; flapping clothing can spook a horse
- No scarves – these can get caught and tighten around your neck
- No strappy tops
- Long hair must be tied back in a ponytail
- No jewellery: watches are acceptable
- No chewing gum or eating around the yard

### **Attire for Riding**

- CLEAN riding boots  
Yard boots are not safe. Boots must have a smooth sole and a small heel.
- Riding hats must fit properly and conform to safety standards\*:  
PAS015: 1998 or 2011 with BSI kitemark  
VG1 01.040 (2014-12) with BSI kitemark  
ASTM F1163:2004a with SEI mark (US hat)  
SNELL E2001 or E2016 with Snell certification label (US hat)  
AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards) with SAI Global mark  
\* Information from BHS website (January 2021):  
<https://www.bhs.org.uk/advice-and-information/tack-and-equipment/what-to-wear/headwear>
- Gloves

### **Attire when Leading Horses**

- It is advisable to wear a hat and gloves when leading horses, e.g. when turning out and bringing in horses from the field, when loading and unloading, etc.