



Woodland Hunt Pony Club Selection Policy 2023

THIS POLICY APPLIES TO ALL AREA AND NON-AREA TEAMS COMPETITIONS

WHPC is keen to enter teams and individuals in as many competitions at every level as we can throughout the year. For all competitions:

- Riders must be **active members of the branch**, regularly participating in rallies and training as well as participating in, and volunteering at WHPC organised events. *The fundraising from our organised events goes towards Team Trainer fees and entry fees for Championships should you qualify. It is therefore vital that you have given something back to the Branch to help raise these funds by volunteering at the events we hold of which there are many throughout the year.*
- *Volunteering at Area qualifying events is part of the application process* and parents must be able to commit to volunteer at either the event their child is participating in or at another discipline event.
- They must be safely competing at the height/level as a combination that they wish to be considered for on a regular basis.
- They must have the correct tack and equipment in which to participate as per the current year Rule Book which they must have read and understood.

As a club we can enter teams, individuals or a combination of both. Teams must consist of three or four Members. We will always field the strongest team(s) available and our preference is teams of four members. Scores for all competitors automatically count for the individual competition irrespective of whether they have been entered as part of a team or as an individual.

Area/Regional Eligibility.

The DC is required to certify the eligibility of the horse and rider when signing off teams. Any breach may result in disqualification. *Full eligibility rules should be referred to in the associated Pony Club Discipline Rule Book for that year. Each parent/rider is responsible for ensuring they understand and comply with the Pony Club Discipline Rule Book and are eligible for selection.*

Combinations are permitted to compete at different levels of the same sport at the Area Competition and at the Championships but must have done their qualifying rallies on all combinations as laid out below.

All competitors must be Members of The Pony Club both at the closing date for entries and at the date of the relevant competition.

All horses and ponies must have genuinely participated at a minimum of three qualifying Rallies/Coaching/Training Sessions of this or their previous branch or centre since 1st July in the previous year, one of which must have been in the current year, with the current rider as a combination. We keep a spreadsheet of attendance at rallies, camps etc for verification purposes. Team practices, including for polo and mounted games, do not count as rallies. Team training is an additional offering but the more rallies and training you attend the more we get to know you as a combination and the better the team dynamics. At the end of the day Pony Club is a training organisation and provides the best level of education both mounted and dismounted to be the best you can be.

Competition Dates

Those applying for consideration must be available for the relevant Championship date for their respective discipline, considering possible overnight stays.

If a member is keen to compete at an Area/Regional competition but is not available for the Championship, we may be able to – number of team entrants permitting - enter them as an Individual. If this is the case, you must make us aware at the outset of your application.

Dates as follows:

Discipline Qualifying Rounds	Date 2023	Venue
Regional Showjumping	17 th June	Middlegrove Farm, Great Missenden, HP16 ORD
PC70 Eventing (now a Regional Competition)	2 nd July	Swalcliffe
Area & Regional Dressage	9 th July	BCA
Area & Regional Eventing	22/23 July	Tweseldown
Area Show Jumping	24 th June	Bury Farm
Area Mounted Games	27 th May	New Pastures, Olney
Mounted Games Zones	22 nd July	TBC
Area Quiz	5 th March	Shiplake Memorial Hall, RG9 4DN
Area Blue Cross Care	20 th May	TBC
CHAMPIONSHIPS		
National Quiz	22 nd April	Moulton College, Northampton
National (Dressage, SJ, Eventing, Mounted Games Blue Cross Care, Tet)	11 th -19 th August	Offchurch Bury, Leamington Spa, CV33 9AR
Polo Champs	10 th – 13 th August	Cowdray Park, Cirencester
Regional (Dressage, SJ, Eventing)	TBC	TBC
PC Area 12 Eventing Show Jumping	September 22 nd October	Stacey Equestrian BCA

PLEASE SEE <https://pcuk.org/sports/polo/competitions-and-events/polo-tournament-dates/> for dates of qualifying Polo Tournaments.

Selection Criteria

The Selectors reserve the right not to send a Team or Individual to any competition. The following criteria apply to those wishing to compete in a Team or as an Individual:

- Combinations should be actively, safely, and successfully competing within the discipline at the associated level, with visible results.
- Results from the previous September up until the time of selection will be taken into account.
- Combinations should have attended the required working rallies and as many organised team training sessions as possible.
- Riders need to register their interest at being considered for Teams by completing and submitting the appropriate forms in full to the correct Team Manager by the deadline. These forms can be found under teams on our website. Applications not made of the form will not be accepted. Members are expected to provide updates to results up until the team selection date.
- Where we have more than four (or the maximum for the discipline) members applying to be part of a team, we will select the four that we feel are the strongest. We would rather put forward a strong team of four rather than two teams of three.
- We reserve the right to make changes to team selection up to the declaration at the event if we see fit. Such examples are poor performance, health, conduct, pony changes etc.
- Ponies must be vaccinated, and verified by branch, in accordance with the latest PC requirements.
- Parents have signed up to volunteer at an Area event as part of the selection criteria.
- **Parents/members have signed up for volunteering at WHPC events to help raise the funds to pay for Team Trainers/Champs where applicable.**

It is a condition of entry for Area Eventing that we provide three fence judges. Members will need to nominate someone who his willing to do this as part of their selection criteria. The nominated person will need to be aged 18+ and available on the day from 8am to 6pm. No previous experience is necessary. This is in addition to other roles we have to fulfil at this event.

Finance

Once a member has been selected for a Team or as an Individual, the place is only confirmed on receipt of the entry fee. This will be facilitated via the usual bookings system. No entry fees can be refunded without a vet or doctors certificate and there is usually a cut off date for this.

If the Team/Individual qualifies for Championships, the club will pay the entry fee provided the member has fulfilled the expected volunteering requirements in Branch and at Area competitions. Any

additional costs, stabling, transport, accommodation etc. are to be covered by the Member. However, in the instance that a member cannot attend the Championship after the closing date for entries we will expect the entry fee to be paid back to the club.

Woodland will provide a Team Trainer for any Area/Regional Events where we have a FULL TEAM competing. If this is the case, it is compulsory for all selected Team members to take part in the course walk with the trainer. You may take your own trainer in addition to the selected Woodland Team Trainer. .

We will not provide a Team Trainer for events where we are sending Individuals or for a Composite Team. If this is the case, Members are either responsible for making their own arrangements using a suitable trainer or request to the DC to co-ordinate with another Area 12 Pony Club that is attending for the Member(s) to utilise their trainer and pay an equal share of the trainer costs whatever that may be. It is not compulsory to take a Trainer with you to an event. Individuals/Composite Teams are welcome to contact the DC to discuss Trainer requirements.

The DC will attend Area/Regional events if able to do so. Should this not be possible, a Team Manager will be appointed for the day (who is not the Team Trainer or a Parent) as a requirement of entry and the Area Rep notified. Competing members will be advised of this and all queries on the day should be directed through this representative.

If a member is unable to put themselves forward for selection due to the financial constraints, they are encouraged to discuss their position (in strict confidence) with the DC and Treasurer to see if WHPC could subsidise some of the costs.

If for any reason a member selected has to pull out of the Championships, we would expect the club to be refunded for the entry fee.

Team Spirit

WHPC expects Riders and their supporters to have a good attitude and participate in all the required activities within the branch, both ridden and helping.

A high level of commitment to the varied aspects for the preparation process is important. Members should be supportive and help each other at all times as well as accepting advice in a constructive way.

We will require all members who would like to be considered and accompanying parents to read, sign and return the following Pony Club Codes of conduct, both of which can be found on the link below. .

<https://pcuk.org/join/info-for-parents/>

Fitness

Horse and Rider fitness is crucial not only to the success of the competitor but also the safety and wellbeing of the Horse and Rider. Riders must notify the DC, Team Trainer or Team Manager of any change in their own health or fitness status, and/or that of their horse/pony or veterinary/medical management immediately, where such a change could impact performance.

Please see Representing Woodland Hunt Pony Club as A Member for additional information and expectations on preparation, code of conduct and wellbeing.

Training

Appropriate discipline training sessions will be provided which you must attend as frequently as possible. Dressage and show jumping sessions for example will be applicable to those doing either pure discipline or eventing. The more you do, the better the team dynamics.

Team Managers

Area /Regional - Dressage, Eventing, Show Jumping

Jo Davenport

joannadavenport1@hotmail.co.uk

PC Area 12 Championships, Spring Festival and Non-Area Team Competitions

Caroline Bowers

cazzabowers@gmail.com

Mounted Games

Lucinda Aitken

Lucinda.aitken@gmail.com

Beth Taylor

beth@taylorents.co.uk

Polo

Jemma Phillimore

Jemma.phillimore@gamail.com

Chiara Evetts

chiaraevetts@gmail.com

National Quiz/Blue Cross Care

Emma Dag

woodland@pcuk.org

Rough guide to levels

SHOWJUMPING	PC Area 12 Champs	Regional	Novice	Intermediate	Open
Area 1 st Round	40cm-70cm	80cm	90cm	1m	1.10m
Area 2 nd Round		80cm 2 single fences 85cm	95cm	1.05m +water tray	1.15m +water tray
Champs 1 st Round		80cm	95cm	1.05m	1.15m
Champs 2 nd Round		90cm	1m + water tray	1.10m + water tray	1.20m +water tray

EVENTING	PC Area 12 Champs	Regional	PC90	PC100	PC110
Max Height XC	50cm to 70cm	80cm	90cm	1m	1.10m
Dressage Test		Each year specific tests are allocated to each height. Refer to the yearbook.			
Showjumping 7-10 obstacles inc. 3 spreads		80/85cm	90/95cm	1m/1.05m	1.10/1.15m
Cross Country		16-25 obstacles	18-25 obstacles 25-30 at Champs	18-25 obstacles 25-30 at Champs	18-25 obstacles 25-30 at Champs
Course Length		From 1,600m up to 2,800m in Area competition increasing to 2,500m to 3,500m at Championship level.			

Please see PC Eventing Rule Book for full dimensions of spreads etc.

DRESSAGE	Regional	Novice	Intermediate	Open
Tests	<p>Each year specific tests are allocated to each height. Refer to the yearbook.</p> <p>Entries for the Championships need to be made within 7 days of the Area competition.</p>			

MOUNTED GAMES	All are 3 round competitions of Areas/Zones/Champs Ponies must be under 148cm There is also a rider weight/pony height limit
Junior/Novice	Not an area competition – simplified races, suitable for lead rein or beginners
Junior	Not to have attained their 11 th birthday by 1 st January
Pairs	To have attained their 11 th but not their 19 th birthday by 1 st January
Senior	To have attained their 11 th birthday by 1 st January

POLO	Min age 1st Jan	Age 1st Jan	Min HPA Handicap	Max HPA Handicap	Chukkas
Jorrocks (Fluffies)	6	Under 11		-2	1
Jorrocks on Polo Ponies (JOPP)	6	Under 11		-2	1
Handley Cross (HX)	9	Under 14		-2	1
Surtees (SUR)	9	Under 15		0	1
Langford (LAN)	N/A	Under 21	-2	N/A	2x2
Gannon (GAN)	N/A	Under 21	-1	N/A	4
Rendell/Loriner (REN)	14	Under 21			1

NATIONAL QUIZ	Updated Competition for 2023 4 Members in a Team
Mini Section	Ages to be 10 and under on 1 st January of the competition year. One member to be 8 years and under. Seven rounds. Questions to be based on E, D and easier parts of D+ Efficiency tests and Mini Badges.
Junior/Senior	Must have two junior members to be 13 years and under on 1 st January of competition year and then two up to the age of 25. Seven rounds. Questions to be based on C, C+ and B Efficiency tests and Achievement Badges.

BLUE CROSS CARE	Competition for 2023 4 Members in a Team
Mini Section	Ages to be 10 and under on 1 st January of the competition year. One member to be 8 years and under. Seven rounds. Questions to be based on E, D and easier parts of D+ Efficiency tests and Mini Badges.
Junior	Must have two junior members to be 13 years and under on 1 st January of competition year and then two up to the age of 25. Seven rounds. Questions to be based on C, C+ and B Efficiency tests and Achievement Badges.
Senior	Teams to consist of three members aged 25 years and under on the 1st of January of the competition year, with one member to be 16 years or under. Questions to be based on the Care section of the C+, B and AH Efficiency Tests.
<p>Teams make their way around different 'stations', each of which will comprise of a different theory or practical based topic. Ten minutes are spent at each 'station', during which time Members are asked a series of questions to be marked by the Assessor. Points will be allocated per section, as well as for the manner in which Teams approach the competition. One round will be chosen, at random, as the 'tie-breaker'. In the event of a tie, the Team with the highest score in that particular round will be declared the winners.</p> <p>Area qualifier with the Final held during the National PC Champs.</p>	