

Wye Valley Riding Club

Rules for Members

The main aim of the Wye Valley Riding Club is to organise events to allow members to ride, compete and train together in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. The rules are designed to give guidance to members and to help the club organise activities and promote members' safety and enjoyment at these events. More information is available in the British Riding Clubs Handbook, a link to which is on the WVRC website on the Important Info page. Members should also read the Club's Constitution.

1. No person can become a member of the Wye Valley Riding Club without first fully completing an application form.
2. Membership will not commence or be renewed until all amounts owing to the Club are paid.

Behaviour at Riding Club events

3. All members attending a mounted event must wear suitable footwear and dress. Protective Headwear must be worn at all times by anyone, whether or not a Competitor, riding anywhere at any BRC event. Harnesses must always be correctly adjusted and fastened. Guidance on current standards are given in the BRC Handbook.
Suitable back protectors are recommended for use during jumping activities and must be worn when riding cross country.
4. All members will at all events have regard and consideration for other property and ensure that all rubbish is deposited in bins provided or removed from the area to a suitable place or taken back home for disposal.
5. Riders and spectators at all events should always behave appropriately. No riders or spectators shall behave in an offensive, abusive or unpleasant manner to any person
6. Members must not discriminate against anyone, regardless of gender, race, sexual orientation or ability
7. Members acting as officials or volunteers should respect their position of trust and maintain appropriate boundaries and relationships
8. Members should report any concerns about, or allegations of, abuse or poor practice to the Club Safeguarding Officer. This is particularly relevant with regard to children or young people under 18 years and to vulnerable adults.
9. Members must not post anything on social media in relation to WVRC organised events that could cause offence to the event organisers or other participants or could bring the Club or British Riding Clubs into disrepute.
10. Horses and Ponies must be of at least 4 years of age to attend a WVRC organised ridden event
11. Stallions are allowed at events by prior arrangement with the organisers and must be bitted and competently handled/ridden by someone who is 18 years or over. If they misbehave, they may be asked to leave the event. Stallion discs should be worn on both sides of the bridle.

Training

12. Riders must be a paid member of Wye Valley Riding Club to attend any training unless explicitly stated in the details.
13. Booking and payment
 - Members should book the training session by contacting the training organiser directly. Contact details are included in the Newsflash and are on the website.
 - All non-members must be 18 years old or over and must complete a booking form, available on the website, in order to attend a training event. By submitting the form, riders are agreeing to abide by all Wye Valley Riding Club Rules.

- Participants must confirm their bookings least 14 days in advance of the training session. Payment must be made once the booking is confirmed and may be made by cash or cheque to the Treasurer or by BACS.
 - WVRC retain the rights to refuse, or remove, any booking.
14. Cancellation of bookings
- A refund will be made if a booking is cancelled with more than seven days' notice prior to clinic.
 - If 7 days or less notice is given:
 - A refund will be only be made if costs are covered by another booking.
 - If bookings have been confirmed and payment has not been received, payment is still due
 - Any members owing money for cancellations will not be allowed to book in for future WVRC training until monies are paid.
15. WVRC retain the rights to cancel training days if there are not enough participants. In this case participants will be notified as soon as possible, and money will be refunded to those who have already paid.
16. Riders must be competent enough to be able to control their horse or pony in a group environment. Any rider which the instructor deems to be unsafe and a risk to themselves, their horse or pony and any other participant will be asked to leave the training session.
17. Unsafe and unsound horses will be asked to leave the training event at the discretion of the instructor who is teaching.
18. Members who do not pay for training and owe monies to the club may have their membership cancelled as per the WVRC Constitution. They will also be reported to Area 15 and British Riding Clubs and may face further sanctions.

Teams

19. Members interested in being part of a team at BRC competitions should give the details of themselves and the horse to the training coordinator.
20. The preliminary entry fee for the team or an individual will be funded by the riding club, but competitors will need to fund their own entry fee and all other related costs.
Entry fees will be refunded if any BRC competition is cancelled.
21. Cancellation of entries
- If a team member wishes to withdraw their entry for any reason the same conditions as for training apply (see section 11).
 - In summary, if a team member cancels their entry with less than seven days' notice prior to the competition, a refund will be only be made if costs are covered by another entry.
22. Those competing in a team will be expected, where possible, to volunteer themselves, or another person, to help at a minimum of one event a year.

Insurance liability

23. Horse riding is a risk sport and riders and horses participate at training sessions, events and competitions organised by Wye Valley Riding Club entirely at their own risk. Whilst members participating in club events are covered by BRC for public liability insurance, it is recommended that all attendees have their own adequate insurance cover.
24. Save for death or personal injury caused by negligence of the organiser or anyone for whom they are in law, responsible; neither the organiser of the events to which these rules apply, nor any agent, employee or representative of these bodies, accepts any liability for any accident, loss, damage injury or illness to horses, owners, riders, spectators, land, vehicles, contents and accessories or any other person or property whatsoever. The organisers have taken reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone present. For those measures to be effective, everyone must in turn take all reasonable precautions to avoid and prevent accidents occurring and must obey the instructions of the organisers and their officials and stewards.