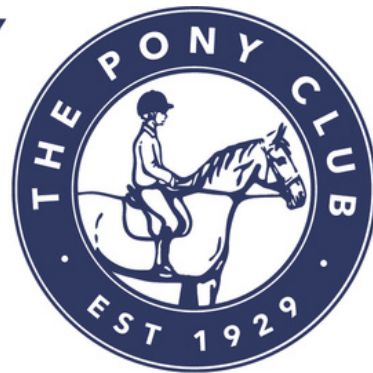


WHADDON CHASE

WELCOME PACK

**PONY
CLUB**



Whaddon Chase Pony Club est. 1931

<http://branches.pcuk.org/whaddon>

THANKYOU FOR CHOOSING OUR BRANCH!

The Whaddon Chase Branch was founded in 1931 by Lady Eva Rosebery and today proudly has over 100 members. Many of our members join us from pre-school age and remain throughout their teenage years, forming life-long friendships along the way.

This pack is designed to provide you with as much information as possible about how our Branch operates and what we can offer during your time with us. If you can't find what you're looking for, or if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us- we will always do our best to help.

Throughout this document you'll find a range of useful links to help you gain a broader understanding of The Pony Club and all it has to offer.

For general enquiries, please email whaddonchase@pcuk.org. This is the best way to contact the Branch, and your message will be forwarded to the appropriate person, who will respond directly.

We also have a Facebook page and a general Branch WhatsApp group, which we use to share important news, results, photos, and information about local competitions and events. You can find us on Facebook here:

<https://facebook.com/whaddonchasepc>



Whaddon Chase is part of Area 12 of the Pony Club and if you visit the website for Area 12 you will be able to find details of competitions and events being organised by other Branches within the Area.

<https://branches.pcuk.org/area12/>

THE COMMITTEE



District Commissioner (DC)

Emma Myatt

Tel: 07799 113288

dc.whaddonchase@pcuk.org

Assistant DC, Treasurer & Safeguarding Lead

Claire Powell

Assistant DC, Horse Welfare & Safety Lead

Vic Hargreaves

Secretary

Ria Bond

Chief Instructor, Badges & Efficiency Tests

Gez Bavastock

Branch Communications & Socials

Gail Taylor

New Members & Transfers

Jane Wolfenden

Rally Co-ordinators

Gemma Nicholls & Nicki Kaenzig



TRAINING & RALLIES

We hold training sessions and rallies throughout the year at a variety of venues across the Branch area. A list of forthcoming sessions can be found at <https://whaddonchasepc.entrymaster.online/>.

Rallies and training sessions take place after school or at weekends during term time, and during the daytime in the school holidays. We offer a wide range of rallies, including 'working' rallies, discipline-specific training, and fun-themed sessions such as Easter, Halloween, and Christmas — all delivered by some of the best instructors in the area.

Sessions usually run for one hour in small groups of up to 2-6 riders depending on the type of rally, ensuring focused instruction and a supportive learning environment. Full details of the activities at each rally, along with member eligibility, can be found on our rally booking page. We also offer unmounted rallies and training sessions for our members to work towards receiving achievement badges and efficiency tests learning everything they need to know about caring for horses and ponies as well as riding them.

In addition to improving riding skills, our rallies are important social occasions where like-minded young people can build confidence, have fun, and form lasting friendships.

FRIDAY NIGHT SUMMER RALLIES

Starting in May and running for 8–10 weeks, we offer Friday night rallies at Wing Jumping & Dressage Centre. With one arena and one grass arena in use — one for flatwork, dressage or mounted games and one for jumping — these rallies are hugely popular with our members and great preparation for those attending our summer camps.

Watching the children progress week by week, building confidence, learning new skills, making friends, and having fun truly captures what The Pony Club is all about.



ENTERING A RALLY

Decide which sessions you want to attend. All rally bookings are made online

<https://whaddonchasepc.entrymaster.online/>

Be sure to plan ahead and book into rallies as early as possible - some are more popular than others and entries can fill quickly!

Rally times will be emailed to you directly several days before a rally

If you have to withdraw from a rally, contact the rally/training organiser as soon as possible. Email whaddonchaserallies@gmail.com. This advance communication is very helpful and greatly appreciated by organisers as it does provide space for a suitable replacement on a waiting list

Withdrawals – Refunds will only be issued if your slot can be filled less a £5 admin fee, and no refunds will be given if withdrawal is made in the 7 days prior to the event.

Please don't assume you will be able to apply late and be given a space. You won't be able to take part unless a suitable space becomes available. A lot of advance planning goes into our rallies and coaches and venues need booking in advance around the numbers / abilities of riders received by the application deadline.

ATTENDING A RALLY

ARRIVE PROMPTLY AND GET MOUNTED

Arriving late can disrupt the rest of the group. Please mount and stand quietly waiting for your rally to start



HORSE & PONY TURNOUT

Ponies should be well groomed and clean with no visible stains, with clean eyes and nostrils. Manes and tails should be brushed out and tidy. Hooves must be picked out. Ponies who may kick must have a red ribbon in their tail as a warning to other riders.



TACK

Saddle and Bridle should fit well, be black or brown and should be both clean and in good condition with sound stitching.

Whaddon Chase Navy or White Numnahs or plain numnahs (black, brown, navy or white).

When a martingale is worn, rein stoppers must be used. Neck straps are also useful.

Stirrups must be a correct size for the riders foot (a gap either side of foot of 14mm is required)

Reins must not be so long that they hang in a loop by the riders foot.



RIDER TURNOUT

Navy Whaddon Chase sweatshirt and polo shirt OR white shirt and Pony Club tie. (In warm weather just a WCPC polo shirt or white shirt and PC tie is sufficient although long sleeves are compulsory for XC, as are body protectors). In wet or cold weather either a Whaddon Chase navy jacket, hacking jacket or a plain dark coloured jacket or coat may be worn. Beige, cream or plain dark coloured jodphurs and black or brown jodphur boots or long riding boots. (Plain half chaps are also permitted) Pony Club badge (and felt if applicable) should be worn on the LEFT lapel/side and black, brown, navy or cream gloves should be worn. No Jewellery is permitted and hair should be contained in a hairnet. Hat should be tagged and silks should be plain black, brown or navy - no Pompoms!

In accordance to 'The Pony Club guidelines on the use of spurs' (Sept 2024), members wishing to ride with spurs at The Pony Club Activities must have achieved the C+ Riding Test or The Spurs Test and their hat should be tagged with the yellow tag to show this.

ATTENDING A RALLY

PARENTS - HEALTH AND SAFETY

When arriving at a rally, children remain your responsibility until the instructor arrives and takes charge. This also applies at the end of your session. Children must not be left unaccompanied by an adult. Children not taking part in the rally (whether members or not) remain the responsibility of their parents at all times. The Instructor is being employed to look after the rally participants, so unless specifically asked to do otherwise, would all parents and spectators please remain outside the arena. We understand that you want to watch your child, but keeping everyone safe is a major concern, especially at XC rallies.

DESIGNATED PERSON

At each rally or team training activity, there will be a Branch Committee Designated Person in attendance to support the event. They will be there to support the coach and members and to answer queries and help with any concerns or issues on the day. The name of the designated person and contact details will be shared with the members attending each event when the times are sent out in advance.

RALLY ORGANISERS PLEA

It can be extremely hard for the Rally Organisers to create the perfect rides at every rally!

Sometimes it is an easy task and all works out with no problems and everyone is happy. Sometimes, it is almost impossible to arrange the groupings well and there may be a mixture of ages and abilities. This is just the way it goes.

We watch the rides ourselves and listen to feedback from our coaches.

Our members are incredibly kind, patient and supportive if someone in their group is having a tougher day - with horses at some point we all have days like those!

All of our committee are volunteers, we give our time freely and try our absolute hardest to make every pony club event wonderful for your child.

HATS

Hats must be tagged by a Pony Club Official to say that they meet the required standard before a member can take part in any rallies or competitions organised under Pony Club rules. Hats are currently tagged with a PINK tag. Fixed peak hats may not be worn for Cross Country or Show Jumping when jumping 85 cm or over. Full Pony Club rules can be found here: <https://pcuk.or/media/giyibtuw/hat-rule-2024.pdf>

BODY PROTECTORS

Body protectors are compulsory for all cross country riding and Pony Racing activities. We strongly recommend that they are also worn for show jumping activities. A body protector for these activities must meet BETA 2018 Level 3 Standard. Body protector requirements for Pony Club can be found here <https://branches.pcuk.org/westhants/files/2024/01/body-protector-rule-2024.pdf>

WHADDON MERCHANDISE

Whaddon Chase Pony Club
Clothing and Numnahs can be
purchased online from –
<https://www.storkworkwear.co.uk/product-category/shop/clubs-groups/whaddon-chase-pony-club/>
Beewear also has a selection of
clothing online from
<https://beewear.co.uk/product-category/pony-club/whaddon-chase/>

Whaddon Chase Cross Country
Colours can be purchased from –
<https://superxcountry.co.uk/product/whaddon-chase-pc-team-colours/>



EFFICIENCY TESTS

The Pony Club Training Structure encourages members to take tests, which enable them to learn progressively about horse and pony care and riding. The tests are taken at recommended ages and are designed with certain objectives in mind.

All members can work through the Pony Club tests as follows:

E Test - Optional test for our younger members. May be led (Pale Yellow Felt)

D Test – Minimum Age 8 (Yellow Felt)

D+ Test – Minimum Age 10 (White Felt)

ROAD RIDER ACHIEVEMENT BADGE must be passed before C Test can be awarded

C Test – Minimum Age 11 (Silver Grey Felt Riding, Meadow Green Felt Care, Green Felt Whole)

C+ Test – Minimum Age 13 (Burgundy Felt Riding, Turquoise Felt Care, Pink Felt Whole)

B Test – Minimum Age 14 (Beige Felt Riding, Brown Felt Care, Red Felt Whole)

B+ Test – Minimum Age 16 (Pale Purple Felt)

AH Test – Minimum Age 16 or over and hold the full B & Lungeing Test (Orange Felt, Honours Salmon Pink Felt).

A Test THE HIGHEST AWARD OF THE PONY CLUB – Minimum Age 17 (Blue Felt, Honours Purple Felt)

Tests E through to and including C, are organised by Whaddon Chase - Gez Bavastock is your contact.

C+ through to AH is organised by Area 12.

A tests must be booked centrally via the Pony Club Head Office.

Achievement Badges and Mini Achievement Badges – Training for badges usually takes place unmounted rallies over the colder months of the year, badge days during the school holidays and during Summer Camp.



TEAM COMPETITIONS

As a member you can represent Whaddon Chase in Local, Regional and National Competitions.

Whaddon Chase is very successful in Pony Club Competitions and we have a strong following for most disciplines.

If you are interested in representing Whaddon Chase at Team Competitions in any of the disciplines please contact the relevant Team Manager and also please do join the Whatsapp Groups of interest:

DRESSAGE

JEN BRADBURY

07725 818285

[whaddonpcdressage@gmail.co](mailto:whaddonpcdressage@gmail.com)

[m](#)



HUNTING

GAIL TAYLOR

07983 571271

gail@wingjdc.co.uk



EVENTING

LOUISA MYATT

07989 575659

louisa.myatt@ovingdexterbeef.co.uk



TETRATHLON

ALICE WOODYARD

07970 422194

alicewoodyard@hotmail.co.uk



SHOWJUMPING

GEMMA NICHOLLS

07725 482524

gemmagomm@yahoo.co.uk



MOUNTED GAMES

GEZ BAVASTOCK

07737 497826

geraldinebavastock@yahoo.co.uk

CAMP

Pony Club Camp is the Highlight of our Year and enormous fun for members, ponies, parents and volunteers. Senior (age 12+) and Junior Camp (age 8-11) 2026 will be held at Bury Farm Equestrian Centre 26th - 30th July. Mini Camp (age 3-7) will be held 23rd to 25th July at Wing Jumping & Dressage Centre.



PONY CLUB PARENTS CODE OF CONDUCT

[HTTPS://RESOURCES.PCUK.ORG/WP-
CONTENT/UPLOADS/2024/04/CODE-OF-CONDUCT-FOR-PARENTS-AND-
PERSONS-WITH-PARENTAL-RESPONSIBILITY.PDF](https://resources.pcuuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Code-of-Conduct-for-Parents-and-Persons-with-Parental-Responsibility.pdf)

INSURANCE

The Pony Club Insurance policy is provided by Howden Insurance Brokers Limited. All members of The Pony Club are covered by our Insurance Policy. It is strongly recommended that you review this information on the Pony Club website regarding this policy <https://www.howdengroup.com/uk-en/pony-club-insurance-hub-howden-uk>

VACCINATIONS

All horses and ponies must have had an annual flu vaccination in order to attend pony club. Stricter requirements can be requested at some venues so make sure that you always check before attending somewhere new for competitions etc.

USEFUL PUBLICATIONS

All our publications are available to purchase from Amazon.

The Manual of Horsemanship is a very useful publication and it is recommended that all members purchase a copy.

Discipline Rule Books - recommended for any members competing in teams or any Pony Club competitions

Pony Club Year Book - All information concerning the Pony Club



WE HOPE YOU ENJOY BEING A PART OF WHADDON CHASE

Volunteers are the backbone of the Pony Club. Please let us know if you are interested in any volunteer opportunities that arise within Whaddon Chase over the year.