

# Pony Club Overseas Linked Centres



The Pony Club is a Member Body of the British Equestrian Federation and has approaching 90 years of experience, knowledge and history that we use to assist all of our Pony Club Branches and Centres. The Centre Membership scheme was introduced in 1998 to allow children who do not own their own pony or have transport for them, to take part in Pony Club activities through their local equestrian establishment. There are now over 500 Linked Centres throughout the United Kingdom and overseas offering Pony Club to young people.

There is an initial application fee of £100 (a one off fee) and an annual fee of £100 for overseas Linked Centres (total payment in first year: £200). The application fee covers set up administration costs, including a start up folder. The annual fee covers affiliation to The Pony Club, regular bulletin mailings, website listings, an annual copy of the Yearbook and continued support from the Pony Club Office.

There is a £10 Member levy per year payable to the Pony Club Office per Member, which includes a Membership badge. Pony Club Memberships is open to anyone under 25 years of age.

## Pre - Requisites

For Centres in the United Kingdom there are a number of prerequisites which must be evidenced before being granted affiliation. These include; riding school licence, public liability insurance, enhanced disclosure checks, safeguarding and first aid qualifications for all Pony Club Coaches.

It is appreciated that other countries have different systems in place, but it is important that overseas Centres have the relevant requirements for their own country in place, that they are up to date and can be evidenced. Previous Pony Club experience is advantageous.

## Coaches

A minimum of UKCC Level 2 / BS Stage 3 (previously BHSAI) qualified staff (or equivalent) is preferable for Pony Club Coaches, but individual cases will be taken in to consideration.

A large volume of coaching courses are run in the United Kingdom every year, and attendance at these when Coaches visit the UK is advised. **It is imperative that Coaches are up to date with their First Aid, Safeguarding and CPD qualifications, relevant to the country in which they are working.**

## Information Required

### Evidence is required of:

- Centre Details; establishment name, address and contact information
- Primary Contact; name, email address and contact information
- Proprietor and Coach/s background and qualifications
- Coach Safeguarding checks/qualifications relevant to your country

- Coach Disclosure checks for working with children/vulnerable young people/adults relevant to your county
- Coach First Aid qualifications relevant to your country
- Licensing/application for your establishment relevant to your country and expiry date
- Insurance; public liability as necessary for running and providing lessons at your establishment
- Details of your establishment; how long you have been established, current facilities, number of horses and clients and proof with **recent** images
- Details of the riding and non-riding activities available to your clients; lessons, competitions, hacking etc
- Current website and social media links

## Linked Centre Benefits

- Use of the Pony Club brand and being part of a World Recognised Organisation
- Lessons can be structured around the Pony Club Test system, giving Members goals to work to and using the achievement system of Achievement and Competition Badges, and Efficiency and Progressive Tests.
- Website and Handbook listing
- Coach Development and Safeguarding and Protecting Children courses at reasonable prices for any Coach who visits the UK, as well as the facility to do online Disclosure Checks.
- Dedicated department at the Pony Club Office
- Extensive online shop to purchase training materials at discounted rates for Members and Pony Club (postage charges apply)
- Online database for monitoring Membership and recording Badge/Test passes
- Regular e-bulletin updates
- Access to downloadable online marketing materials
- A dedicated Office Team and Volunteer Committee who strive to improve and develop the scheme
- Representation at Management and Trustee level

## Benefits for Young Riders

The scheme provides a clear but flexible structure for Members up to the age of 25, through a combination of ridden lessons and stable management sessions. Members and their parents should be able to see a progression in their riding and care abilities.

## Pony Club Coaching

### Requirements for Pony Club Coaches in the United Kingdom:

Pony Club Coaches are divided into four categories according to their use and role within The Pony Club. Each category has specific requirements, as detailed below.

**1. Fully Accredited Coaches;** may take sole charge of the groups they coach.

**2. Supervised Coaches;** must not earn their main income from equestrian coaching, but may be paid to coach for The Pony Club. These Coaches must be supervised (in full sight and sound at all times) of a Fully Accredited Coach, the DC/Centre Proprietor or any other Official who fulfils the requirements for category 1. The supervisor must be able to hear exactly what the Coach is saying

and must be able to see all their actions the whole time they are in contact with children or vulnerable adults.

**3. Volunteer Coaches;** These Coaches must be unpaid and supervised by a Fully Accredited Coach, the DC/Centre Proprietor or any other Official who fulfils the requirements for category 1.

**4. Coaches for non-riding/horse related activities;** these Coaches can be used for coaching sports other than riding for Pony Club activities, such as swimming, shooting or running.

Requirements for each category are listed below:

<b>Pony Club Coach Requirements</b>	<b>Fully Accredited</b>	<b>Supervised</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>	<b>Non-Riding</b>
Attendance at a Pony Club CPD within the last two years	✓	✓		
Have a current DBS or PVG or Access NI check	✓	*	*	✓
Have a current First Aid certificate	✓			✓
Attendance at Safeguarding & Protecting Children Workshop	✓	*	*	✓
Own or have Access to a Pony Club Coaches Folder	✓	✓	✓	

\* Where Supervised / Volunteer Coaches are coaching regularly (i.e. **three** or more times within any thirty day period) **in England, Wales and Northern Ireland**, an enhanced Disclosure Check (DBS or Access NI) and attendance at a Safeguarding & Protecting Children Workshop is required.

\* **In Scotland, all four categories of Coach must have a PVG check if they coach on at least one occasion. Please note: the regular and frequent definitions do not apply in Scotland.**

**Please note, Coaches who teach across the borders of England & Wales, Scotland and/or Northern Ireland will require a Disclosure Check (DBS, PVG or Access NI) for the respective country that they are coaching in.**

Accredited Coaches for another BEF Member Body (i.e. are currently listed as a coach by the Member Body and have attended CPD as required by that Body) may be used in The Pony Club but only for the sport that they are accredited in, if the Member Body is specific to a particular sport.