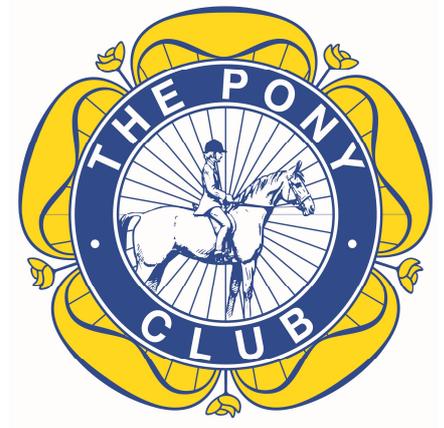


# Branch E-Bulletin

## October 2015



### 1. Introduction

Dear All

Welcome to the October Bulletin which comes after a busy Summer which we hope was fun and successful for members and volunteers alike.

As you will have seen from the regular notes we are busy at Stoneleigh, and Unity and the work to review the brand are progressing well.

If you have any questions do please let us know.

Best wishes

Pip

Pip Kirkby  
Chief Executive

### 2. Important News

#### **Schedules for Shows and Competitions**

We have noticed that there are various different variations of the disclaimer that Branches put in their schedules, therefore we now have a definitive wording for you. Please can you ensure that the following wording is incorporated into your future schedules:-

1. Save for the death or personal injury caused by the negligence of the organisers, or anyone for whom they are in law responsible, neither the organisers of this event or The Pony Club nor any agent, employee or representative of these bodies, nor the landlord or his tenant, accepts any liability for any accident, loss, damage, injury or illness to horses, owners, riders, spectators, land, cars, their contents and accessories, or any other personal property whatsoever, whether caused by their negligence, breach of contract or in any other way whatsoever. Entries are only accepted on this basis.
2. The organisers of this event have taken all reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone present at this event. For these measures to be effective, everyone must take all reasonable precautions to avoid and prevent

accidents. They must obey the instructions of the organisers and all officials and stewards.

3. All non Pony Club competitors are not covered by The Pony Club insurance and must have their own third party cover. The [ XX ] Branch of The Pony Club and the organisers of this event are not legally responsible for non Members and their insurance will not cover you.

### **Branches / Centres and District Commissioner / Centre Proprietor**

As you know all Pony Club competitions are open to Branch and Centre Members. Therefore, please could you see that the words Centres and Centre Proprietors are also included in your schedules/entry forms along with the removal of the words Inter-Branch.

## **3. Training**

### **Tests & Achievements**

#### **A Test**

Congratulations to the four Members, and their coaches who passed the A Test this autumn:

- Christian Allderidge - Naburn Grange Centre
- Helen Berry - South Durham Hunt
- Gabi Pitman - East Sussex
- Laura Schrøter - Lord Leconfield Hunt

Every Member who passed the A Test this year had attended a Pony Club B+ and A Test Training day to help them prepare. These training days are really useful for Members to get an idea of what is expected during the Test, as well as to understand how they can work towards the standard. Dates for next year's Tests and training will be available on the website soon.

#### **AH Test**

For the first time, the AH Test has been run as a modular Test, and it's very pleasing to hear of successful candidates from all over the country. If you have Members who would like to take their AH Test in 2016, please encourage them to start training now to ensure the best chance of success.

## **Achievement Badges**

Certain slow-moving Achievement Badges will be discontinued when the current stock runs out, to allow room in the range for new badges which have been requested. Don't delay in ordering if you wish for your Members to complete any of the following badges:

- Access to Endurance
- Butterflies & Moths
- Carriage Driving
- Mini Carriage Driving
- Flags of Equestrian Nations
- Wild Flowers
- Stargazing

There will be a number of new badges will be available in 2016:

- Beach Riding
- Mini Beach Riding
- Yard Safety
- Mini Yard Safety
- Field Safety
- Mini Field Safety

## **The Pony Club Tests and BHS Exams**

As you will be aware, we have been working with the BHS to map our equivalent qualifications to enable Members much easier between the two systems. The full details regarding the direct entry routes which have been agreed will be published on the website and in the next Bulletin, along with updated Test syllabi for D+ upwards.

## **Coaching**

### **UKCC – new course dates available**

There are a number of Level 1 and Level 2 UKCC courses organised all over the country for 2015 and early 2016. Details of all The Pony Club's organised UKCC courses are listed on the website: [www.pcuk.org/training/training\\_ukcc](http://www.pcuk.org/training/training_ukcc); if any of your coaches or older Members would like to enrol or would like further information on a course, or would like any more information on other Pony Club UKCC Courses, please email [georgina@pcuk.org](mailto:georgina@pcuk.org).

### **UKCC – Level 3 Taster day**

For coaches interested in taking UKCC Level 3, there will be a Level 3 taster day at Warwickshire College on Tuesday 15th December, which will include an introduction to the course and portfolio, an opportunity to talk to a candidate from the last Level 3 course, and some guided coaching practice with a Level 3 Coach Educator. This day will count as a CPD refresher for any Pony Club Coaches attending. Anyone interested in attending should contact Jenny Cowen: [jenny@pcuk.org](mailto:jenny@pcuk.org).

## **Introduction to Coaching Courses**

There has been a slight change to the way the Introduction to Coaching courses are funded. Tutor fees expenses for the Step 1 course are now to be taken from the course income, rather than being funded centrally. Step 2 and Step 3 will continue to be subsidised by the central Training budget due to the higher costs of running. Full details can be found on the website: <http://goo.gl/75uOCC>

## **Other Training News & Opportunities**

### **Opportunities in the Training Department**

We are currently recruiting a full time Training Officer, for one year maternity cover, to be based at The Pony Club office at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire and knowledgeable and enthusiastic Regional UKCC Coordinators to organise and promote UKCC Courses in the North, South East, South West of England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

The Training Officer position will require a highly motivated individual with the ability to multi-task and meet tight deadlines, working well autonomously or as part of a team to oversee the efficient day to day running of the Training department. For more information please go to the website: <http://goo.gl/q2fdY7>

The main focus of the UKCC Coordinator role will be to organise and promote Pony Club UKCC courses and qualifications to coaches within The Pony Club and the wider equestrian industry. For more information please go to the website: <http://goo.gl/KZMuuj>

### **Rider Development Pathway**

The RDP scheme will continue in 2016, and the eligibility criteria will remain the same as for this year. There will be ten assessments, and full details, including how to apply is on the website: <http://www.pcuk.org/training/riderdevelopmentpathway>

This year's squad members have already had rider nutrition, fitness and position training, help with social media best practice along with advice on contacting sponsors. They have each been allocated a mentor to assist them with their competition and training planning and queries, and they have a budget of £500 to assist with their development and spend on training. It is a brilliant opportunity for Members, please encourage anyone eligible to apply.

### **Fall Training**

We've had several requests for information on fall training for Members, and so we have been contacted the leading trainers in fall training in the racing industry. The British Racing School are able to offer a variety of options which should suit any Branch or Centre wishing to offer fall training to their Members. For full details, please visit the website <http://goo.gl/1y9m8B> , or contact [Clare.Kingston@brs.org.uk](mailto:Clare.Kingston@brs.org.uk) at the British Racing School.

## Coaching Conferences

We are pleased to be able to announce that the dates for the 2016 Coaching Conferences are Thursday 18th February at Hartpury College and Tuesday 5th April at Bishop Burton College. The theme is Coaching Cross Country Through The Levels, and they will be delivered by BE Accredited Coach and successful 4\* rider Nick Gauntlett. Applications are being taken at <http://events.pcuk.org> and tickets are £30.

## 4. Competitive Disciplines

### a. Dressage



#### Riders Test

This test focuses on the effectiveness and influence of the rider rather than the way of going of the horse. Competitors can ride any Pony Club test (usually set by the Organiser of the competition), and the Judge marks the rider using the Riders test score sheet.

Any Branches or Centres running the Riders Test can be provided with rosettes for the Riders test section/class, please email [laura@pcuk.org](mailto:laura@pcuk.org). More information can be found on the Riders Test page of the website.

#### Dengie Winter League Dressage

Preliminary Rounds for the Dengie Winter League Dressage Series are now well under way. These competitions give Members the opportunity to compete throughout the winter at Novice, Intermediate or Open level and we are keen for as many Branches and Centres to be involved as possible.

For some Dengie Dressage Frequently Asked Questions please click here: [http://www.pcuk.org/email\\_resources/Dengie-Dressage-FAQ.pdf](http://www.pcuk.org/email_resources/Dengie-Dressage-FAQ.pdf)

### b. Mounted Games

**CONGRATULATIONS to the Monmouthshire Hunt Branch of The Pony Club who are our Prince Philip Cup Champions for 2015!**

Full results can be find on the website.

With the season now drawn to a close we can reflect on another fantastic year of Pony Club Mounted Games. Competitions have been taking place up and down the country with some fabulous racing from both Junior and Senior Members; check out our pages on the website for more information.

If you are interested in starting up Mounted Games within your Branch or Centre please contact Jo Hayward at Headquarters for more information on [mountedgames@pcuk.org](mailto:mountedgames@pcuk.org)

## **Royal Windsor Horse Show 11th – 15th May 2016**

The closing date for RWHS nominations is Friday 15th January 2016. Please read the paperwork carefully.

### **Invite Letter**

Download the invite letter here: <http://goo.gl/o1RuKB>

### **Online Nomination**

The online nomination link can be found here: <http://goo.gl/nuKF6B>

Further information regarding trial dates and venues are available on The Pony Club website here: <http://goo.gl/IP94HO>

## **International Exchange**

The Australian Pony Club has invited the UK Pony Club to the International Games Exchanges 2016. (Date TBC – Easter/Summer)

The closing date for the Mounted Games International Exchange nominations is Monday 7th December 2015. Please read the paperwork carefully.

### **Invite Letter**

Download the invite letter here: <http://goo.gl/RCfbVW>

### **Online Nomination**

The online nomination link can be found here: <http://goo.gl/6y9odY>

Further information regarding trial dates and venues are available on The Pony Club website here: <http://goo.gl/tvoKmw>

## **Study Days**

Saturday 30th January 2016

Area 8 – Essex and Suffolk Hunt Pony Club

Wix Equestrian, Essex, CO11 2RU

To book onto any of the Mounted Games Study Days please click here: <http://goo.gl/qWLHDm>

If any Area/Branch/Centre would like to hold a Mounted Games Study Day and have a suitable indoor venue please contact Jo Hayward at Headquarters on 02476 698307 or [jo@pcuk.org](mailto:jo@pcuk.org)

Please keep an eye on the website for Study Day dates in your area: <http://goo.gl/ytmFPJ>

### **Area Competitions**

Please note that ALL Area Mounted Games Competitions must be completed by Monday 1st June 2016. The weekend of 14th/15th May, Royal Windsor Horse Show, should be avoided if at all possible.

### **Zone Competitions**

Provisional dates for the 2016 Zones are below, but please keep an eye on the website for updated information.

#### **Southern Zone at Taunton Racecourse**

Sunday 26th June

#### **Central Zone at Warks College, Moreton Morrell**

Saturday 2nd & Sunday 3rd July

#### **Northern Zone at Eglinton Park**

Saturday 9th July

The allocation of Areas will be confirmed and posted here early December.

Further information regarding the Zones will be available on the website shortly and sent out in the December Bulletin. <http://goo.gl/w5Vzll>

### **Friendly Competitions**

Please remember to visit the 'Friendly Competitions' page in the Mounted Games section of the website for details of Competitions in your Area.

<http://goo.gl/Dtj7rn>

### **c. Polo**



It is possible to play Pony Club polo starting at 6 years old and finishing at 21 with only one pony, making it widely accessible. If you are interested in starting up polo within your Branch please contact Laura Armstrong by emailing [laura@pcuk.org](mailto:laura@pcuk.org)

## 5. Other News

### a. Merchandise

The following Achievement Badges will be discontinued once the current stock has been sold. Therefore, there is a limited amount of time for your Members to complete these Badges:

Flags of Equestrian Nations, Star Gazing – Including Badge Buddy, Butterflies & Moths, Wild Flowers – Including Badge Buddy, Carriage Driving, Access to Endurance and Mini Carriage Driving.

We have a range of New Items available:

- Have warm ears this winter with The Pony Club Fleece Ear Warmers. £7.50  
<http://shop.pcuk.org/clothing/fleece-ear-warmer.html>
- New Book! How to Draw Horses & Ponies, Full of practical and simple advice and ideas, written by Jennifer Bell. £4.99 <http://shop.pcuk.org/books-dvd-s/books/how-to-draw-horses-and-ponies.html>
- Christmas Mugs are back! Durable green plastic mugs featuring a festive design and The Pony Club logo. Dishwasher & Microwave safe. £3.00  
<http://shop.pcuk.org/general-gifts/gifts/xmas-mug.html>

2016 Membership Cards are now in stock. Please email [Kirsty@pcuk.org](mailto:Kirsty@pcuk.org) with the amount you require and your delivery address.

The Trade Stand will be at the following events, Please come and see us!

- Your Horse Live – 14th & 15th November
- London International Horse Show, Olympia – 15th – 21st December. The Pony Club will also be running the Shop & Drop at this event.

### b. PR & Marketing

#### Event Offers

##### **The London International Horse Show, Olympia, 15-21 December 2015**

The Pony Club have teamed up with Olympia, The London International Horse Show, to bring Members an exclusive ticket offer.

Using the code 'Pony Club' groups of 10 or more can receive a 30% discount and a reduced booking fee when visiting the show on:

- Wednesday 16 December, evening performance
- Thursday 15 December, afternoon performance

- Friday 16 December, afternoon and evening performances
- Monday 21 December, afternoon and evening performances

For more information, please visit the Olympia website at <http://www.olympiahorseshow.com/>

### Shop and Drop

The Pony Club will again be running the Shop and Drop at Olympia this year, for which a number of Volunteering opportunities will be available. For more information please contact Vicky Kangurs on [Vicky@pcuk.org](mailto:Vicky@pcuk.org) or 02476 698321.

### The Pony Club Logo

Does your logo look like any of these?



**SQUASHED**



**STRETCHED**



**FUZZY (PIXELATED)**



**NO SPOKES**



**SQUARE LETTERING**



**THIN LETTERING**

If the logo you are using looks like any of the above, or you need advice about Pony Club logos or colours please email us: [media@pcuk.org](mailto:media@pcuk.org)

Please note: As we are no longer in our 85th Anniversary year please can we ask that you revert to using the standard Pony Club logo, not the 85th Anniversary version.

### Online Marketing Pack

We have put together an online Marketing Pack which can be found at: <http://goo.gl/eyXI9E> where you can download:

- Poster Templates
- Pony Club Leaflets
- Marketing & Press Tips
- Request Logos
- The Pony Club Corporate Guidelines

If you need any help, have any questions or suggestions for additions to the Marketing Pack please do drop us a line at [media@pcuk.org](mailto:media@pcuk.org) as we are always looking for new ideas and input into what will help you.

### **Social Media**

The Pony Club's social media policies can be found online: <http://goo.gl/RGr043> and give both guidelines and best practice information for those using social media on behalf of a Branch, and personally when communicating with young people. If you have any queries about social media usage on behalf of The Pony Club please drop us a line and we will be happy to advise: [media@pcuk.org](mailto:media@pcuk.org)

## **c. Health & Safety and Safeguarding**

### **Safeguarding Training**

Over the winter months, why not get your committee members and instructors trained for safeguarding to start preparing early for the summer and residential camps next year. If you would like to organise a face-to-face safeguarding workshop, then please contact Stefanie Brazier for more information on [Stefanie@pcuk.org](mailto:Stefanie@pcuk.org). Alternatively, you can enter for the online refresher course at: [http://events.pcuk.org/?page\\_id=2053](http://events.pcuk.org/?page_id=2053)

Please note: The first approved safeguarding workshop attended should be face to face. This may be followed three years later by an online course. However, as a minimum, individuals should attend a face to face course every six years.

### **Disclosure Checks**

Have you registered your Branch or Centre to do disclosure checks online? We now have over 250 Branches and Centres using the online system successfully and feedback is excellent. Why not see what it is all about! To find out more information, please contact Stefanie Brazier on [Stefanie@pcuk.org](mailto:Stefanie@pcuk.org)

## **d. Cubitt Awards 2016**

**What is the Cubitt Award;** The Cubitt Award is a way of Branches, Centres and The Pony Club honouring those that have passed the landmark of at least twenty years of voluntary help to the Organisation.

It was in 1987 that Patrick Langford a past Pony Club Chairman, suggested that there should be a special award for these special people who volunteer so much of their time and energy. So The Pony Club Council created the Cubitt Award in 1988 and it is named After Guy Cubitt, The Pony Club Chairman from 1945 to 1970.

**Who can be nominated for a Cubitt Award;** Anyone who has volunteered for The Pony Club at either Branch, Centre or National level for 20 or more years.

**Who can make the Cubitt Award nomination;** Any Branch or Equestrian Council Committee Member, Centre Proprietor or Centre Coordinator.

**How do I nominate someone for a Cubitt Award;** Fill out the online nomination form by following the link below. This nomination will then be ratified by the Area Representative and The Chairman of The Pony Club.

**What happens after the nomination;** Once ratified the nominees will be invited to the Cubitt Award Luncheon held in early June where they will be awarded the Cubitt Badge and certificate.

Nominations for the 2016 Cubitt Awards can be done here:  
[http://events.pcuk.org/?page\\_id=1084](http://events.pcuk.org/?page_id=1084)

Please complete no later than 7th March 2016.

#### **Cubitt Bar Awards**

Please remember that the Cubitt Bar award is on-going for anyone who has received their Cubitt Award and have continued to volunteer their time for 30, 40 or 50 years! Nominations can be done here: [http://events.pcuk.org/?page\\_id=1088](http://events.pcuk.org/?page_id=1088)

If you have any queries please contact Jo Hayward: [jo@pcuk.org](mailto:jo@pcuk.org)