

Pony Club Endurance

The Pony Club Endurance Relay

Keep it SIMPLE, Keep it SAFE, Keep it ENJOYABLE
Emphasising THE PONY CLUB TEAM ETHOS

Dear Pony Club Members, DCs, Area Reps,

We are proposing a new competition with the aim of encouraging the average Pony Club member to have a go at endurance, whether they are riding anything from a small hairy pony to a high-class eventing horse. This is a team competition (3-4 in a team) with the competitors riding in pairs. The importance of achieving the ride fairly fast (12 kph will be a demanding speed for the average pony club member) with the horse finishing as relaxed and calm as possible, will be achieved by restricting the overall speed. There will be no benefit in going faster than 12 kph. Suitable for all PC members 8yrs and over (Those under 12yrs need to be accompanied by an adult with the maximum of two children to one adult)

1. The class will be called 'The Pony Club Endurance Relay'.
2. Except for the maximum speed of 12 kph, this will be run under EGB rules.
3. EGB ride organisers are being encouraged to run this class, so the EGB omnibus schedule needs to be consulted to see where and when the relays are being run.
4. As this is being run under EGB rules, any EGB points will be available.
5. Teams must consist of 3 or 4 members. Teams should ideally be made up of members from the same Branch, but it is possible for two Branches or an Area to get together to form a Team.
Note: To encourage more entries, Ride Organisers will advertise that they will be able to form teams themselves upon close of entries. Therefore, if you had two pairs of riders wanting to enter who did not know each other prior to the event, they could both still enter as pairs and then be joined together to form a Team.
6. To be ridden over 20 km (approx.) with a optimum speed of 12 kph. There is no advantage in going faster than this, as the horses will finish with a higher heart rate and no extra points will be gained.
7. All horses must be vetted before they start the ride. The second pair can obviously do this while the first pair is competing.
8. The first pair will set off and complete their 20 km. As they finish, the second pair (or the individual if only 3 in a team) will set off. The first pair will have up to half an hour to present to the vet. Hopefully, this will

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emphasise the teamwork and skill in getting the horses' heart rates down as quickly as possible.

9. The timing of the second pair will continue until they finish the course, and they will have the normal 30 minutes to the vetting. This will emphasise the importance of finishing with a relaxed and calm horse, not flat out, in order to make a faster time. There will be real skill in going fast enough to be near to the optimum time, but steady enough to finish with a low heart rate.
10. Normal EGB rules will be used, e.g., the final heart rate must be below 65 bpm for all competitors.
11. Scoring: The result will be worked out by using the optimum time (in minutes), adding any heart rate penalties (1 penalty for every heart rate higher than 44 beats per minute). The lower the score, the better. In case of equality, the lower heart rate will win.

Example

Rider	Time taken	Speed	H.R.	H.R. Penalties	Final Score
1	120 mins	10 kph	40	-	120
2	120 mins	10 kph	52	8	128
3	135 mins	8.9 kph	60	16	151
4	135 mins	8.9 kph	48	4	141

Final Team Score (Best 3 scores To Count) $120 + 128 + 141 = 389$

Entries should be made on the EGB website. More details on this later.

Venues and Dates so far for the PC Endurance Relay.

Sun 1st June Dialstone (N. Yorks)

Sun 13th July Cirencester

Sun 13th July The White Horse (N. Yorks)

Many more yet to be organised.