

Pony Club Race Day



on Friday 3rd April 2026
at Cheltenham Racecourse
by kind permission of The Jockey Club



Kindly Supported by Summerhill Equine Vets

Race 1 – The Alan King Racing 128cms & under All Types Race
Distance – 6 furlongs approx. No minimum weight.

Race 2 – The Calmsden Farms 138cms & under Novice Race
Distance – 6 furlongs approx. No minimum weight.

Race 3 – The K & M Racing 138cms & under Intermediate Race
Distance – 6 furlongs approx. No minimum weight.

Race 4 – The Summerhill Equine Vets 138cms & under Open Race
Riders to carry a minimum of 7st 10lbs. Distance – 6 furlongs approx
The Tim Spencer-Cox Trophy to highest placed rider from Area 9

Race 5 – The Kim Bailey & Matt Nicholls Racing 148cms & under Novice Race
Distance – 8 furlongs approx. No minimum weight.

Race 6 – The Fergal O'Brien Racing 148cms & under Intermediate Race
Distance – 8 furlongs approx. No minimum weight.

Race 7 – The Summerhill Equine Vets 148cms & under Open Race
Riders to carry a minimum of 9st. Distance – 8 furlongs approx
Area 9 Perpetual Trophy to highest placed rider from Area 9

Best Turned Out in each race kindly sponsored by Calmsden Farms.
Jockey Coaches kindly sponsored by Conor Brace / Condicup Stables, Hollie Doyle, Noel Fehily Racing & Tom Marquand.
The Winners Enclosure kindly sponsored by Charlie Longsdon Racing.

Thank you also to The Racing Foundation for their support of all Pony Club Race Days.

Please note all times are provisional & may change. Maximum number of 12 runners per race.
Doctors, Vets & Paramedics in attendance. Refreshments available.
First Class Photography & Trade Stalls including Treehouse Saddlery on site.

Entries via www.EntryMaster.co.uk , opening at 1pm, Tuesday 17th February, Shrove Tuesday & closing on Friday 13th March, Gold Cup Day, OR WHEN FULL.

The entry fee for each rider/pony combination is £40 plus an admin fee*

The day will be run under [Pony Club Racing Rules](#). Max 12 runners per race. Waiting Lists will be held for races. One of the races listed above may divide giving a maximum of 8 races on the day.

Follow our Facebook page – Area 9 Pony Club Race Day - for general information & notices. Please address any questions via email to area9.ponyracing@pcuk.org.uk.

To enter a Pony Club Race Day, the Combination of Pony Club Member & Pony must have, since 1st July 2025 participated in:

- i. a minimum of two ridden group rallies of one hour in duration. The ridden activity to take place in a wide-open space, preferably on grass or on gallops. Combinations must have been able to demonstrate that they can maintain control whilst cantering in a group & alongside other ponies.
Both the rider & pony should be suitably fit to meet the demands of a Race Day, as well as understand the dress & saddlery required to take part; or
- ii. a minimum of one (passed) PRA/PC Training Day; or
- iii. attended & completed a British Racing School or National Horseracing College Level 3 training day (Passed)

Member & Pony combination must still be eligible to compete in the race they have entered by the close of entries.

If a child's eligibility for the race they have entered changes **before entries close**, please email area9.ponyracing@pcuk.org to change race as soon as you can & definitely before entries close on Friday 13th March.

Upon close of entries, the Organiser will send all entries to The Pony Club Office, who will confirm.

Should a breach of eligibility be proven, the offender will be disqualified

All combinations taking part must be qualified to race BEFORE entering (& be valid Pony Club members on the day of the race day).

Please check the [rule book](#) & speak to your DC or Branch Manager for advice.

Guide to race types.

Riders & Ponies must meet this qualification criteria for their chosen class:

Novice

► For combinations who have never finished 1st in a Pony Club (except Beginners) or PRA Point-to-Point race, or taken part in the PRA Racecourse Series. ► Riders must not have ever taken part in the PRA Racecourse Series with any pony. ► Ponies must not have won an Open Pony Club or PRA Point-to-Point race in the last 2 years with another jockey or competed in the PRA Racecourse Series. ► No minimum weight. ► Combinations taking part in this race must have met the qualification criteria.

Intermediate

► For combinations who may have won a Novice Race before but not won an Intermediate or an Open Pony Club or PRA Point-to-Point Pony or Racecourse Series Race before. No restrictions on ponies. ► Riders must have previously raced. ► No minimum weight. ► Combinations taking part in this race must have met the qualification criteria.

Open

► Combinations must have previously been placed 1st, 2nd or 3rd in a Pony Club or PRA Race Day. ► Riders must carry the minimum weight stated in the race details. ► Combinations taking part in this race must have met the qualification criteria.

PLEASE BE AWARE!

- A compulsory Briefing & Course Walk for 128 & 138 Jockeys will be held in the morning before racing & for 148 Jockeys at a later time. All Riders must walk the course with the nominated Official & must attend the briefing. Non attendance at either of these will result in not being allowed to ride on the day. First Race at 12.30pm. Briefing times tbc but not before 9am.
- All ponies attending the day must be aged 60 months-20 years & comply with the Vaccination requirements as given in the [2026 Pony Club Pony Racing Rules](#) & explained in this schedule.
- Riders must be PC Members 9 years or above on the day of the race. Riders can race up until & on the day of their 17th birthday. They must be qualified on the pony they wish to race in line with the [2026 Pony Club Pony Racing Rules](#).
- Entries will only be pending until you have provided copies of your pony's passport (showing their current vaccination record for Equine Influenza in full) AND, if you have not attended & passed a PRA/PC Training Day since 1st July 2025, your Pony Club District Commissioner or Centre Proprietor must confirm that the entered pony & jockey combination are qualified to race. Please discuss this directly with them before entering.
- Ponies with information outstanding at close of entries (midnight on Friday 13th March) will be automatically withdrawn from the day with no refund given.
- Children & ponies must have the correct tack to race. Please don't rely on spares being provided on the day. Without the correct tack, you will not be allowed to race. Guidance on tack is available in the [2026 Pony Club Pony Racing Rule Book](#).

PLEASE NOTE THERE HAVE BEEN SOME CHANGES TO TACK RULES THIS YEAR!

- **Ponies racing at Ascot on Tuesday 31st March 2026 or at PRA Fixtures in the week before the Cheltenham Race Day are advised that their pony will be checked on the day by the vets in attendance before permission is given to race.**
- **THIS DAY IS NOT SUITABLE FOR COMBINATIONS WHO MAY WISH TO BE LED TO THE START.**

It is the responsibility of all parents/guardians to read the [2026 Pony Club Pony Racing Rules](#) IN ADVANCE of the day.

Please remember this day is led by a volunteer committee & mainly staffed by volunteers.

Not ready to race YET but like to find out more?

The Pony Racing Authority are not running a Taster Day at Cheltenham this year, but please visit their website, www.ponyracingauthority.co.uk for details on other Taster Day venues & dates.

The PRA Taster Days are free to attend & aimed at children aged 7-15 who have not pony raced before.

If you are joining us at on the day & would like to find out more about pony racing, please come & find one of the Committee members who would be delighted to welcome you & introduce you to the sport.

Conditions of Entry & General Information

The Event will run under [Pony Club Racing Rules 2026](#). These are available to download from [THE PONY CLUB WEBSITE](#).

Only entries received via the Official Entry method will be accepted. Any entry which is received without the entry fee will be declined. Entrymaster are the booking agents for the event.

Full terms & conditions are available to view on the entry form at www.entrymaster.co.uk.

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian making the entry to ensure that they are compliant. Should a breach of eligibility be proven, the offender will be disqualified or unable to take part on the day.

The organisers reserve the right to cancel the event or any race, to alter the advertised times, to divide or combine any race & to refuse entry with or without stating a reason. The decision of the Chief Steward will be final & binding.

Multiple Entries

Please note that only one entry for the day may be made for any combination of pony & rider. If you wish to enter a child in more than one race on different ponies, it is allowed, but please email area9.ponyracing@pcuk.org to say which entry is the priority entry.

If entries exceed capacity in races you have entered when you have made multiple entries, we may have to waitlist your entries in the extra races entered.

Withdrawal

If a combination is withdrawn prior to the closing date, a full refund will be made less a £5 administration charge. Withdrawals after the closing date will not be refunded.

Abandonment

In the event of abandonment, for whatever reason, a refund of 50% of the entry fee will be given. In such an instance, the refund process will be communicated & must be followed.

Health & Safety

Organisers of this event have taken reasonable precautions to ensure the health & safety of everyone present. For these measures to be effective, everyone must take all reasonable precautions to avoid & prevent accidents occurring & must obey the instructions of the organisers & all the officials & stewards.

Legal Liability

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 & accessories, or any other person or property whatsoever. Entries are only accepted on this basis.

Insurance

The Pony Club 'Public Liability & Products Liability Insurance' Policy includes cover for all the official Area Competitions & the Championships. Details of this insurance are available on The Pony Club website.

Photographic Policy & Rights

Please be aware that the participants may be photographed or filmed during this Race Day, therefore it is important that you read & understand the statement below:

Competitors & their guardians entering give permission for any photographic, film or TV footage taken of persons or ponies taking part in Pony Races to be used & published in any media whatsoever for editorial purposes, press information or advertising by or on behalf of the organisers. Competitors & their guardians consent to the organisers providing information that they may think will be of benefit. This may be done by post, by fax, by e-mail or via websites & social media.

Area 9 takes the privacy & safeguarding of children very seriously. The only external photographers that are permitted to take images of the children at any of our Pony Club events are those engaged directly by the organisers & those images will never be used for any external media, advertising or promotion other than with the express written permission of the parents.

Eligibility

If a child's eligibility for the race they have entered changes **before entries close**, please email area9.ponyracing@pcuk.org to change race as soon as you can & definitely before entries close.

What vaccinations do I need to pony race at Cheltenham on Friday 3rd April 2026?

All ponies racing at the 2026 Area 9 Pony Club Pony Race Day at Cheltenham Racecourse must be vaccinated for Equine Influenza.

- We strongly advise that ponies are vaccinated in line with the British Horseracing Authority's Vaccination Code. This can be viewed at <https://vaca.horseracing.software/>
- As we race more than 8 days before the next BHA Race Meeting at Cheltenham & will not be using the Stables at the Racecourse, it is possible for ponies who are vaccinated annually (so long as the vaccination intervals for the start of the immunisation course are correct) to race but they must have received a booster for Equine Influenza in the 6 months prior to the race day. This means their last booster must be between Friday 3rd October 2025 & Friday 27th March 2026. All vaccinations for Equine Influenza must be administered at least 7 days prior to racing. Please remember, if we have to change the date of the race day for any reason, these given vaccination dates will also change.

Although all passports will be checked prior to the day, it is your responsibility to check your vaccinations & upload copies of the vaccination's in your pony's passport at the time of entry.

If a vaccination is given between entering the event & the race day, it is your responsibility to send this to the Entries Secretary as requested.

Please ASK YOUR VET for advice if you need help.

Nb - All primary courses started in 2022 or after must have followed the new vaccination intervals (V1- V2 21-60d; V2-V3 120-180d). Prior to this, it was V1 – V2 21-92 days & V2-V3 150 – 215 days).

*admin fee includes a £1.50 Entrymaster charge per booking, Stripe fees also apply.