

The Pony Club Musical Ride Competition

The Musical Ride is a spectacle not to be missed at the Pony Club Championships!

Teams of between 6 and 12 riders perform their own choreographed routine to music of their choice, wearing themed costumes or Branch/Centre sweatshirts.

Marks can be achieved for the ride content, choice of music and overall artistic presentation. Some of the previous themes we have seen include Bake Off, Superheroes, Pirates of the Caribbean, Buggy Malone, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Lancaster Bombers, Matadors, Top Gun, Grease, James Bond and 101 Dalmatians to name just a few!

Rules

- The team should contain between 6 and 12 riders.
- The team can be from a Branch or Centre or a combination of both (Area teams are permitted)
- Dress – correct tagged hat and riding boots or jodhpur boots (costume optional)
- Saddlery – any normal tack and riding bit is permitted; a tack check will be carried out.
- Arena – 20m x 60m
- Duration – the duration of the display within the arena should be no longer than 5 minutes timed from entry salute to closing salute (an additional 1 ½ minutes is allowed for entry and exit, music is permitted for this, i.e. music can run for 6 ½ minutes)
- All riders must enter the arena at A
- Assistance such as voice, bell, whistle etc is not permitted, either within the ride or as outside assistance.
- Props – there should be no physical props inside the arena. Small, unobtrusive handheld props are permitted; these must be considered safe by the tack check steward. They must not exceed the length of a schooling whip.
- Please ensure all hat tags are clearly visible.
- Lead rein riders are permitted at walk and trot only.
- Leaders cannot join the ride part way through to assist a previously un-lead rider, unless it is to assist a rider in difficulty who needs to leave the arena.
- All leaders, including anyone entering the arena to assist a rider needing to leave the arena, must wear a correctly tagged hat and suitable footwear. Suitable footwear is at the stewards' discretion, but solid shoes/boots are required (open toed, canvas or partial foot covering will not be accepted).
- Re-mounting after a fall is not permitted. Pony and rider should leave the arena when it is safe to do so and may not rejoin the ride, the ride may continue if it is safe to do so. When it is unsafe to continue the ride, the music will be stopped by the steward and where possible, with the agreement of the steward, the ride may be re-run at the end of the competition, and the scores will be H.C.
- Should a dismount during the ride be planned as part of the display the steward must be informed before the ride.

Scoring

The object of the competition is to provide an entertaining spectacle for both competitors and spectators and will be marked as follows:

Content of Ride

Variety and change of pace 20

Choreography of overall ride 20

Riding skills and team harmony 20

Costumes and music 20

Interpretation and entertainment value and suitability and impression of costume

Suitability of music to the paces shown

Overall Artistic Impression 20

The whole presentation, idea, display, visual impact and effort involved

In the event of a tie, the ride with the higher artistic marks shall take the higher placing.