



**The Waterford Hunt Branch
of the
Irish Pony Club**

WHPC GUIDELINES & PROTOCOLS FOR COVID-19.

Mrs. Jo Breheny (Safety Officer /Compliance Officer and Member of the National Pony Club Safety Committee) has been appointed by the Executive committee of WHPC as our Safety & Covid -19 Compliance Officer for the 2020 season.

The Covid Compliance Officer /or Safety Officer Appointed has total control over the activity and has the power to **Stop** or **Cancel** any activity or person **Not** complying.

We as a club, have been given clear direction regarding non- compliance through specific instruction from the Head Office Safety Committee around pony club activities. We risk the cancelling of all planned events / activities if our club is found to be in breach of these specific guidelines.

It is imperative all participants, Parents, Children, Instructors & Officers of the Club strictly adhere to these guidelines as follows.

All attending **MUST** complete our Covid-19 Risk Assessment Questionnaire available online on the branch website before attending any branch activity.

Punctuality is Paramount, please arrive and exit in an orderly manner obeying directions at all times.

Parking attendant will be on site to oversee 5m distancing when parking boxes.

2m social distance must be observed at all times throughout the activity.

Members must book and pay for activities in advance online.

Gatherings of extended family, siblings and friends is strictly prohibited.

Only one **Parent** or **Guardian** should accompany the member.
Un-fortunately no additional family members or friends should be present.

If a member arrives with family or friends, they will be requested to stay in their vehicle throughout the session.

Before travelling members must observe good hand hygiene and use bathroom if necessary. There is no need to wear gloves, hand sanitisation and hand washing are recommended.

Members should bring their own Hand Sanitiser for their own personal use.

Children should arrive ready to ride dressed in appropriate attire as per WHPC with correct Safety Standard Helmet and Back Protector, there will be no sharing of any Tack or Helmets, except with siblings.

Pony should be clean and ready to tack up and where possible and if safe travel with bridle and head collar in place.

All members should bring their own water bucket and sponge/scraper and sweat rug if needed.

Each coaching session will be a maximum of 1 hour, with an allocated time of 15 mins for arrival and 15 mins for departure.

Tack Inspection

When ready to ride the Rider and Parent/Guardian should go to Tack Inspection where you will be met by your instructor. He /She will oversee the Parent /Guardian check your own child's tack whilst maintaining social distancing, they will advise you to correct or adjust any tack as required.

Please check your tack is clean and in a safe condition before you travel this will save valuable time.

Parents must keep social distancing of 2m while observing the activity.

Once training session is complete Parents / Guardians are requested to go straight to their boxes, attend to their ponies, and depart within the 15 min allotted time to allow the next group to arrive.

Please leave as soon as finished to avoid delays to the next group arriving.

Members must bring their own refreshments, lunch or snacks and have it in their own vehicles.

Toilets where possible will be limited, children must be accompanied by their Parent / Guardian.

Any Results or Certificates will be distributed via e-mail or post.

Fall Protocol

Instructor will:

1. Assess findings from a distance, request Parent / Guardian to be present to reassure child.
2. Seek First Aider and Health and Safety Officer or Deputy to assess faller.

3. If the faller requires further medical attention at A&E, an ambulance should be called or if safe and fit Parent / Guardian will be requested to take the child to hospital for review and treatment if required.

PPE Pack will be available for first aider, to include, hand sanitiser, apron, mask, and gloves. Pony club **First Aid Kit** when needed for minor issues will also be available.

The Trainer should fill out an **Accident Report Form** as witnessed and seek assistance from the Health and Safety Officer or Appointed Deputy and discuss any issues.

It is the responsibility of the Trainer in charge of the group to be vigilant and inspect the area and equipment they are using to ensure safety before training session.

Riding Protocol.

1. Observe social and safe distance.
2. No sharing unless with a sibling.

Stable Management Protocol

1. Theory sessions only, practical by video where possible.
2. No handouts.
3. No sharing, unless with family member.

At all times follow the directions of the Compliance Officer or Safety Officer.

These guidelines have been put in place to keep you and your family and all volunteers in Waterford Hunt Pony Club Safe.

It's in everyone's interest to help maintain these Protocols.

Enjoy, Stay Safe and most of all have Fun.

The Executive Committee – WHPC.

