

IPC CROSS COUNTRY TACK SHEET 2025

To be read by D.C.'s, Trainers, Parents and Competitor



It is the responsibility of competitors to ensure the correct tack is used in conjunction with 2023 Rules. All tack should be properly maintained, correctly fitted & clean when presented for Tack Inspection.

If a Tack Steward finds any gadget/bit or piece of saddlery that in his/her opinion is cruel, the Chief Steward, who has absolute discretion to forbid its use and to ban the respective animal from competition, will be called. Saddlery, which is not allowed for competition may not, upon penalty of elimination, be worn on the day of competition. Actions deemed cruel will eliminate the combination of horse & rider.

Competitor only, may school & ride their horse at competitions.

Bridles: Plain leather preferred. Synthetic bridles must be brown/black. Micklem Bridle allowed. Bit must be attached with leather strap.

Browbands: Plain leather only.

Reins: Plastic or nylon must have a leather insert at buckle end.
Lungeing in side reins is permitted but no other gadgets are allowed.
Running/draw/check forbidden.
No clips attaching reins to bit.

Bit guards If used must be smooth.

Hackamores / Bitless bridles: Not allowed.

Blinkers &/or Sheepskin cheek pieces: Not allowed.

Double bridle Not allowed.

Breastplates Allowed.

Martingales Only running martingales are allowed. Rubber/leather stops to be fitted on reins and neck strap.

Saddles Black or brown of plain English type with full tree and 2 (or more) buckled girth strap.

Synthetic saddles allowed. No coloured saddles, no felt saddles.

Pinch Boots Not Allowed.

Stirrups Solid stirrups including Flexie stirrups allowed. Stirrups must fit correctly.
1 cm space on either side of the foot. Point of stirrup bar must be down.

Allowed: Solid stirrups, Flexie stirrups, Safety stirrups fitted with peacock leathers and correct rubber bands and Free Jump stirrups.

Not allowed: Magnetic stirrups.
For Tetrathlon and Minimus competition Drop Down stirrups are allowed.

Numnahs / Saddle Cloths / Pads

Ideally white, brown or black, which can have the same color piping as the pad. They may contain the Branch logo. Branch name allowed.
Branded pads can only be used if displaying the current competition sponsor. Square pads allowed however those following the line of the saddle look smarter in Show Jumping and Cross Country.

Whips (a maximum of 75cm). Must have flap on end.

Studs Care should be taken when using studs.

Spurs - Blunt only, made of metal without rowels or sharp edges. If curved, the curve must be downward and the shank straight back. Metal spurs with rubber rowels and easy spurs allowed.

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Open/Intermediate: 3.5cm

Junior: 2cm

Under 12's competition – spurs not allowed.

Impulse/soft touch allowed. Off-set spurs not allowed.

CROSS COUNTRY BITS:

Must not be cruel or dangerous, at discretion of Tack Inspector/Chief Steward.

No leather or wooden mouthpieces allowed. Additional covering on any part not allowed.

Optional except that

- a) Elevators are not allowed
- b) Two ring Snaffle allowed. Three ring gag if used fitted with two reins in first ring and any other or a single rein to a rounding attached to first and third ring. For Junior and U12 a single rein in any ring or by a rounding attached to first and third ring. Cheltenham gag allowed with a single rein. Tom Thumb allowed.

Boots/bandages – must be well secured and ideally bandages secured by Armbands for all competitions.

Body Protectors - Correctly fitted (2cm below rib cage) must be worn for cross country training & competition. BETA Level 3 (Turquoise) 2018 Standard or any later revision, compulsory for Cross Country.

Air jackets – When an air jacket inflates the sudden noise startles horses in the immediate vicinity thereby causing difficulties for the other members of a ride if used for group ride in a confined area, e.g. an indoor school or outdoor ménage, air jackets are therefore discouraged for group rides.

Air jackets must only be used in addition to a normal body protector. They must not be worn under any item of clothing, and number bibs should fit loosely or with elasticated fastenings over the air jacket.

Body-

rings/studs/Jewellery/Buttonholes - are forbidden.

Jodhpurs/Breeches – only cream/white/beige.

Hair Nets - Long hair must be tied-up in hair net.

Stocks Self-tied stocks only are compulsory for cross country competitions. Stocks must be secure. No Stock Pin.

Gaiters if worn If worn must be black or brown leather polished (not suede), with matching boots. Suede allowed for U. 12's.

Sweatshirts Branch colour or black or navy over body protectors or Rugby Shirt permissible for cross country. Long sleeves required. No riding in hoodies.

Number Bibs compulsory for cross country.

Devices: Electronic devices are not allowed in competition.

No recording device is permitted e.g. hat cameras as they may have a negative effect on the performance of the hat in the event of a fall.

Chin Straps - Must be fastened at all times when mounted (on penalty of elimination).

Medical Armbands - Compulsory for all cross-country competitions. Current photo identification required on medical armbands

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IPC TACK SHEET SUMMARY CROSS COUNTRY 2023 FOR RIDER

 	HAT	SKULL CAP PAS 015 2011 onwards or VG1 01.040 2014-12 (both with BSI Kitemark or Inspec IC Mark) or Snell E2016 or ASTM F1163: 2004a and subsequent updates or AS/NZS 3838 (2006 and any subsequent updates)	BODY PRO- TECTOR BETA BETA Level 3 (Turquoise) e) 2018 Standard	G L O V E S	S T O C K SELF TIE	IPC T I E	W H I P S	SPURS Jnr 2cm Snr. / Int. 3.5 cm Metal with curve pointed down ward. Easy spurs allowed	C O L O U R S	MEDICAL ARM BAND WITH PHOTO	
	Eventing	X	C	C	R	C	X	75cm	✓	✓	C
	Hunter Trials	X	C	C	R	C	X	75cm	✓	✓	C
	Tetrathlon	X	C	C	R	C	X	75cm	✓	✓	C
	Minimus	X	C	C	R	C	X	75cm	X	✓	C
HORSE											
	BRIDLE (Leather recommended) If using synthetic fiber leather insert in buckle end.			NOSEBAND		RUNNING G MARTIN- GALE	GIRTHS Min. of two buckles	BOOTS OR BANDAGE S WELL SECURED	SURCINGLE		
	Snaffle	Pelham	Double	Cavesson Drop / Flash Grackle	Kineton						
Eventing	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	C	✓	R		
Hunter Trials	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	C	✓	R		
Tetrathlon & Minimus	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	C	✓	R		
Key to symbols: ✓=permitted, X=forbidden, C=compulsory, R=recommended											