

Pony Club Championships 2019: Biosecurity Policy

Flu Vaccinations:

We take the issue of biosecurity very seriously. Events such as the Pony Club Championships bring together large numbers of horse/ponies in one place. In this context horse/ponies which are unvaccinated or whose vaccinations are not up to date pose a potential risk to the health of other animals attending the event as well as any resident at the venue and we are conscious that we need to be vigilant in seeking to avoid the spread of this disease.

All horses and ponies attending the Championships are required to be vaccinated, in accordance with Pony Club rules (see Health and Safety Rule Book page30). The rules require that an initial course of injections is given followed by boosters at intervals of not more than **12 months**. Minor errors in the giving of boosters prior to 2014 can be ignored provided all injections since then have been given properly.

A reminder - if you are thinking of having your horse vaccinated under Pony Club rules you cannot compete the horse/pony on the same day or any of the following six days e.g. if a horse receives a vaccination on a Monday the earliest you can compete it would be the following Monday.

It is your responsibility to ensure the vaccinations are up to date. A copy of the horse/pony's vaccination record must be attached with the entry for the Championships. Spot checks will be undertaken and random passport / integrity checks will also be carried out at Cholmondeley.

Any horse or pony which poses a risk to the health of others will be sent home.

NB The British Equestrian Federation continues to urge all horse owners to ensure that their vaccination records are up to date. This is vital to help prevent the spread of Equine Flu. If it has been more than six months since the last vaccination, they strongly recommend that owners discuss a booster with their veterinary surgeon and the Pony Club endorses that advice.

If BEF advice changes, we will review this policy.

Water

For bio-security and practicality reasons, water will be available in troughs.

To prevent cross-contamination you **MUST** only use the buckets provided to dip into the trough and then fill your own buckets / water containers.

Competitors' own buckets must NOT be dipped into the troughs.

Hay nets must NOT be soaked in the troughs.

Abuse of this system or theft of the dedicated buckets may result in elimination of the competitor.