Bye – Laws & Rules for Members

1. **General Rules**

The Club Field and facilities **may only be used by fully paid up members** of Fife Riding Club. For the avoidance of doubt, for the purposes of these Bye-Laws, a “member” is defined as a Riding, Honorary or Associate member of the club only.

* 1. Non-members are only allowed to ride in the Field during Open Shows.
  2. No Club equipment should be taken from the Club Field without prior approval from the Committee.
  3. All damage should be reported to the Field Co-ordinator or Club Secretary
  4. All litter etc must be removed from the Club Field or disposed of in the litter bins supplied by the Club. Do not “muck out” your horsebox or trailer onto the Club Field
  5. Members should adhere to any specific rules when competing at various competitions organised by the Club throughout the season.
  6. Vehicles are not to be taken into the Club Field during periods of inclement weather and when the grass is likely to be cut up
  7. No galloping of horses is allowed in the Club Field, outwith competition.

1. **Safety**

Handling and Riding horses is inherently dangerous. Horses are flight animals, easily frightened and capable of unpredictable behaviour.

**ALL RIDERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THEIR OWN SAFETY AND THAT OF OTHER FIELD USERS WHILE USING THE CLUB FACILITIES.**

* 1. Members must adhere to Fife Riding Clubs *Health & Safety Policy***\*** at all times when using the Clubs facilities, a copy of which is posted on the club noticeboard.
  2. All access/egress areas must be kept clear
  3. Dogs must be restrained by lead at any time there are horses within the Club Field.
  4. Riding hats – to the standard defined in the Riding Clubs Rule Book must be worn (correctly fastened) by all riders whenever mounted (this includes instructors)
  5. All accidents or dangerous occurrences must be reported to the Club Secretary, Field Co-ordinator or Show/Event Organiser (as appropriate). A Riding Club Accident Report\* may require to be completed.

1. **Horses**
   1. All ridden horses must be

• sound of wind and limb

• at least 4 years old

• correctly tacked and turned out

• free from any contagious disease.

1. **Official Club Meetings & Activities**
   1. Riders should be neatly turned out i.e. Jacket/Club sweatshirt, Breeches/Jodhpurs & Riding/Jodhpur boots. For competitions, members must adhere to the relevant discipline rules including dress code and tack.
   2. Horses are not permitted into the “safe” area unless in the event of an emergency or unless authorised to do so by the event organiser.
   3. Horses are not to be cantered, lunged, schooled, etc in the horsebox parking area unless authorised by the event organiser.
   4. Club Lessons

Sufficient notice should always be given to the organiser i.e. do not turn up on the night unannounced.

Members wishing to cancel a lesson should seek a substitute member or give the organiser at least 48 hours’ notice. Failure to do this will require the member to pay the full cost of the lesson.

* 1. No “H.C.” entries are permitted when there are 2 or more competitions being held within the same arena on a weekday evening unless at the organiser’s discretion.

1. **Use of Field outwith Club Meetings & Activities**

**General**

Members taking part in organised club activities are covered by the clubs mandatory insurance cover, however any **members taking part in “unorganised” activity such as private exercise are NOT INSURED and DO SO ENTIRELY AT OWN RISK**. Anyone wanting to use the field for private exercise will be asked to sign a disclaimer before attending the field. Such riders should have their own private public liability& personal accident insurance.

Riders should wear a suitable safety helmet as defined in the current BRC rule book and suitable riding boots. Back protectors may be appropriate when jumping.

We recommend that anyone using the field for private exercise should be accompanied whenever possible.

Under 18’s must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

1. Priority over members using the Club Field is given to

•Participants in official Club activities outwith normal meeting times

•the Groundsman and/or members carrying out maintenance duties etc

•Committee/members carrying out duties in connection with forthcoming meetings, shows etc

2. In the case of combination padlocks, the number must **not** be shared with other individuals. The combination number is subject to change without notice.

3. Arenas which are “closed off” should not be used under any circumstances.

4. The committee reserve the right to deny access to the Club Field at any time.

5. Ensure that the main field gate is closed before unloading or riding your horse Ensure that all gates are closed securely when leaving the Club Field.

6. Should you use equipment please ensure that you do not leave poles etc lying on the sand or grass. Always leave the Club Field in a tidy condition.

**Private Tuition**

Any member using the field for **private training** **with an instructor** must give the Club Field Co-ordinator 24 hours’ notice stating the

• date and time of lesson;

• type of tuition being given

• instructors name

• Instructors will need to supply proof of valid insurance cover to the Club Secretary **in advance** in accordance with BRC guidance.[ MEMBERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THEIR INSTRUCTOR HAS FORWARDED INSURANCE]

**Any member failing to notify the Field Co-ordinator as above will be in breach of the Bye-Laws and may be subject to disciplinary action**

Members should be prepared to share arenas where necessary of lesson

A current registered “First Aider” must be in attendance at group lessons where there are more than 4 riders.

Members booking a lesson as defined above are responsible for their instructor’s adherence to the Club Bye Laws & Rules. Instructors may NOT ride at the field unless they are members of the club.

**6. Conduct**

6.1 Any Club member who conducts themselves in a manner which will or which will be likely to bring Fife Riding Club into disrepute will be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Clubs Disciplinary Procedure\*

6.2 Whilst BRC/FRC acknowledge that social media can be an ideal way to communicate with both members and the wider equestrian community any defamatory comments relating to members, officials, volunteers and staff of FRC/BRC or the BHS will not be tolerated. An online post is libellous if it damaging to a person’s reputation. Re posting or retweeting can be seen as an endorsement of the original comment. BRC/FRC members and clubs may be subject to disciplinary action if found to be in breach of this rule

\**A separate document/policy, a copy of which may be obtained from the Club Secretary.*