

Looking After Your Pony at Rallies

We all want our ponies to be happy, healthy and enjoy their rallies as much as we do! Here are a few friendly reminders to help keep your pony comfortable and cared for throughout the day:

- **Come prepared** – bring plenty of water, hay or forage, and anything else your pony might need while away from home.
- **Check your pony before you set off** – make sure they are fit, well and ready for the activities you have planned.
- **Check your tack** – it should fit comfortably, be in good condition and be suitable for what you are doing.
- **Give them time to warm up and cool down** – and remember that every pony has a different level of fitness.
- **Keep an eye on the weather** – make sure your pony doesn't become too hot, cold or uncomfortable, and bring suitable rugs if needed.
- **Give them a breather** – rallies can be exciting! Allow your pony time to relax, have a drink and enjoy some forage between activities.
- **Listen to your pony** – if they seem tired, uncomfortable, stressed or just not quite themselves, please let your instructor or rally organiser know. It's always better to ask.
- **Be kind and patient** – rallies should be a positive experience for both pony and rider.

Most importantly, **put your pony first**. If something doesn't feel right, there's never any harm in stopping and checking.

For more information and helpful welfare advice, please take a look at **The Pony Club's Horse & Pony Care and Welfare Policy**: <https://resources.pcuk.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/The-Pony-Club-Welfare-Policy.-v20.pdf>

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