

Brookfield Horse & Pony Club 2018 Gear Check: aimed at compliance with Pony Club Queensland rules and the safety and comfort of rider & horse

Compiled as an abridged guide for MUSTERS at BHPG. For more complete details, visit the PCAQ website - "Uniform & Saddlery Rules 2018" for additional information – download from Rule Books page at www.pcaq.asn.au/Resources/RuleBooks.aspx .

Helmet

- Helmets need to comply with the following standards: AS/NZS 3838 (AU) and ARB HS 2012; PAS 015 (UK); ASTM F 1163 (USA); VGI (Europe) EN1384 – Only for helmets with manufacture date up to and including 2015. Helmet compliance expires 5 years from date of manufacture.
- Sun protectors can be attached to helmet.

Jewellery – rules are for safety, so that jewellery cannot get caught up.

- Earrings should be small sleepers or studs, no rings without gloves.
- No facial or body piercings allowed.
- Necklaces, bracelets or watches only if under long sleeved shirt, not to be visible.

Beige jodhpurs or beige stockman cut trousers. No blue jeans.

Riding boots as per the PCAQ Rulebooks.

- All ages can wear black or brown jodhpur boots, lace-up short boots, or long top boots (leather or synthetic) or field boots. If the lace-up boots have hooks, gaiters must be worn to cover them.
- Textured tread on the soles must be no more than 3mm deep, with a smooth border around outside.
- Leather gaiters and suede chapettes must match boot colour.
- Spurs are correct type (dummy spurs max 35mm length; spurs with metal/synthetic roller or daisy rowel 70mm length) and fitted properly.
- No western rowel spurs at musters, except for riders 13 yrs and older during sporting training. Rowel must be at least thickness of 20c piece.

Body protectors recommended for showjumping & cross country.

Pony club whip (max 75 cm long with flapper 50 mm long and not less than 20 mm wide), dressage whip (max 1.2 m long including tassel).

Bridle.

- Position and tightness of the noseband - 2 fingers should be able to be slipped between the noseband and the horse's skin, and 2 fingers should fit between the bottom of the protruding cheek bone and the top of the cavesson noseband.
- Bridle & reins assembled with buckles facing outwards, and billets facing inwards.
- Type of bit approved by PCAQ and the correct size for the horse's mouth
- The position of the bit creates at least one wrinkle of skin at the corners of the horse's mouth.
- Tightness of throat lash - your hand (4 finger width) should fit sideways between throatlash & horse's throat
- Reins are an appropriate length - when held by the rider in the normal riding position, the bottom of the loop of the reins should not hang below the top of the stirrup.
- Split reins must be tied / taped together at musters by all riders.
- Grass reins are acceptable but ONLY as outlined in PCAQ Rules for 8 years and under. No baling twine allowed.
- If reins need to be knotted to shorten them, the buckle must be undone to prevent the foot or body part from catching in the loop
- Clip-on reins must have tape over the clips for safety. Use electrical tape.

Martingale – Running or Irish, correctly fitted

- The reins should be in a straight line from hands to bit when the horse's head is level and the rider's hands are in the normal position.
- All reins must have stoppers between the rings of the martingale and the bit.

Saddle

- When a rider is in the saddle, you must be able to fit 2 or 3 fingers sideways between the saddle cloth over the withers and the gullet of the saddle.
- No western saddles with horn or treeless saddles.
- Pony pads permitted only for young riders.
- Saddle must have a girth with at least 2 points of attachment on each side (can use a 2 buckle girth on a saddle with 3 points) or a girth plus surcingle.
- Stirrup leathers must be on a bar designed for the leathers to come off OR if the saddle has solid/ fixed bars, breakaway stirrups (which include the rubber sided Peacock stirrups) or toe-stopper stirrups must be used. Also to be used if the surcingle would prevent the stirrup leather from coming off.
- Correctly fitted clogs or toe stoppers can be used for young, unbalanced or inexperienced riders. Monkey grips and neck straps are permitted.
- If the stirrup bar has a swivel end, it must be in working order. It can be up or down.
- Stirrups must be the correct size for rider's boot with 1 cm clearance on each side of their boot.
- NO BALING TWINE is allowed for any purpose.
- Blinkers, hoods, overchecks, standing martingales, bearing, running or draw reins, shadow rolls are not allowed.
- All equipment must be used in the manner for which it was designed to be used. It cannot be used in any altered way.