



## **BHS HEATHER LUCAS MEMORIAL MOUNTED GAMES COMPETITION 2020**

**In order to make the competition safer for all participants and their mounts riders will not be required to dismount at any time. This also makes the games fairer for participants on big horses when competing against ponies.**

### **GENERAL RULES:**

1. Riders must be 18 years or over on the date of the competition.
2. Horses must be a minimum 14hh.
3. Horses will be mounted correctly at all times. Vaulting on to the horse is NOT allowed.
4. No whips to be carried.
5. Spurs cannot be worn.
6. Teams shall be made up of 4 riders and 4 horses plus a 5<sup>th</sup> member on foot. Any member, including the 5<sup>th</sup> member, can ride any horse in any race.
7. The 5<sup>th</sup> member is an integral member of the team and in every race will be positioned behind the changeover line, adjacent to the wall, at the opposite end of the arena to the start/finish line.
8. No games will be played that will require a rider to dismount.
9. No rider will dismount in order to pick up any dropped or knocked over equipment.
10. When equipment is dropped, the 5<sup>th</sup> member of the team must leave their post, retrieve the dropped item and hand it to the rider. The rider must not continue until the 5<sup>th</sup> member has returned to their post at the bottom end of the arena. Movement of the rider before the 5<sup>th</sup> member is back at their post will result in elimination of the team from the race.
11. Where equipment, such as a bending pole, is knocked over, the rider in question must stop and remain at that point. The 5<sup>th</sup> member must leave their post, replace the equipment in its correct position and then return to their post at the bottom end of the arena. The rider may not continue until the 5<sup>th</sup> member is back in position. Again, movement of the rider before the 5<sup>th</sup> team member is back at their post will result in the team being eliminated from the race.

12. Where equipment is dropped at handover (such as batons, flags, etc.) the team cannot continue and are eliminated from the race.
13. Riders/horses (all four feet) must be behind the start line before commencing the race.
14. All four feet of the incoming horse must have passed over the start/finish line before the next rider can cross the line and enter the field of play. Any rider moving off before the incoming horse has passed over the line will render the team eliminated from the race.
15. Riders who have completed their part of the race must wait in position until all teams have completed the race and the starter has signalled they may return to the top of the arena.
16. Reins cannot be knotted during any race.
17. If the whistle is blown during a race it indicates a safety incident and all riders must halt. The Chief Steward will restart the race when it is safe to continue.
18. Teams should wear a long sleeved team shirt to easily identify them. Sponsors logos are allowed. Team colours should be notified to the organiser (BHS Regional Manager) by the closing date for entries to the competition.
19. The last rider in each race must wear a 2" approx wide, white hat band to assist the finish line judge (to be provided by each team). The last rider does not have to be the same in every race.
20. Hard riding hats and suitable footwear must be worn by all 5 team members at all times.
21. Hitting, rough handling, or any ill treatment of a horse will result in elimination for the team from that race. In extreme circumstances, the team will be disqualified from the competition.
22. Only team members and officials are allowed into the field of play.
23. It is the rider's responsibility to ensure tack is safe and fit for the purpose.
24. It is the rider's responsibility to ensure the horse is fit and well to compete. Any horse causing concern will be withdrawn from the competition.
25. Teams must attend a briefing at a notified time before the start of the competition.
26. In a dispute in relation to any aspect of the games or competition, the decision of the Chief Steward is final.

*January 2020*