

First GROUP Pleasure Ride

Group pleasure rides can be entered by members or non members. Distances range from 10km (6miles) to 40km (25miles). Horses do not need to be registered for these rides.

Choose your first pleasure ride by looking through the list of rides online for West Riding or any of the neighboring groups. Entries for a ride can be made online or sending in a ride entry form with a SAE. Send your entry in before the Ride Close Date, then about a week before your ride, your ride details will arrive by post or email, so that you can plan your journey and your ride. You should have your horse passport with you as the law requires but it probably will not be checked at the ride

Aim to arrive at the Venue in good time, a range of start times will normally be given and you need to allow 35-40mins to get ready. Before you unload check in with the Secretary, collect your numbered bib and check the notice board for any changes to the route or last minute rider instructions

Put out buckets of water and hay net up for your return. Remove any bandages or travel boots. If cold or clipped leave the rug on. Put your numbered bib on! Tack up your horse. Put an emergency sticker on you and on your horse's tack. Remember to take your map case and map, talk round and mobile phone (on). Attach your drink and holder to your saddle if needed.

Walk to the start, the timekeeper will give you your start time make a note of this time. Set off quietly and try to ride at a consistent pace. You need to be riding between 8 and 12kph, around 10kph is a good target speed (ie a mixture of trotting and cantering, with not very much walking!) So 20k will take 2hours at 10kph. But the main aim is to enjoy your ride!

On returning to the venue (finish) give the timekeeper your number, they will tell you your finishing time. Dismount and walk back to the trailer. Untack and put head collar on, tie up to trailer. He may need washing down but if it is cold do not let him get chilled. Offer him a drink and a feed. Let your horse relax before getting ready and loading for home.

Return your bib to the Secretary ask for any trophy card to be signed and collect your rosette.

We hope you have a great time but remember if you have any queries please contact west riding group (address is on the website)