



The Irish Pony Club is committed to providing the best possible environment for all young people involved in the sport. Members deserve to be given enjoyable, safe sporting opportunities, free from abuse of any kind. These members have rights, which must be respected, and responsibilities, which they must respect. Interaction between children should be conducted in a spirit of mutual respect and fair play.

The Irish Pony Club also has a duty of care for volunteers and all sports leaders working with its members on behalf of the organisation.

Members are entitled to: -

- Be treated with dignity and respect.
- Be safe and to feel safe.
- Get help against bullies.
- Say no.
- Be listened to.
- Be believed.
- Be happy, have fun and enjoy sport.
- Experience competition and the desire to win as a positive and healthy outcome of striving for best performance.
- Have a voice in the running of their branch.
- Participate on an equal basis.
- Confidentiality.

Members should always: -

- Avoid behaviour, conduct or language that is unseemly or offensive, or conduct injurious to the character and aspirations of the Irish Pony Club or the interests of its members.
- Treat all instructors, trainers, selectors, competition organisers and officials with respect.
- Abide by the rules set down by team officials when travelling to away events.
- Respect team members even when things go wrong.
- Respect opponents, be gracious in defeat.
- Treat their pony or horse with care and consideration.
- Take responsibility for their own safety and the safety of others. Abide by the Safety Rules and Regulations of the Irish Pony Club, in particular wear the protective riding hats, body protectors and correct footwear as prescribed by the Irish Pony Club.
- Take care that their tack is in good condition and safe for riding.
- Abide by the rules set down by their District Commissioner and Branch Committee, instructors, trainers and chaperones when travelling to away events.

Members should never: -

- Use unfair or bullying tactics to gain advantage over other members or officials.
- Use bullying tactics to isolate another member.
- Use violence or physical contact that is not allowed within the rules.
- Shout or argue with officials, team members or opponents.
- Harm fellow members, opponents or their property.
- Cheat.
- Make false allegations against other members or adults.
- Use drugs, alcohol or tobacco at Pony Club activities.
- Take or allow others to make you, try or take banned substances to improve your performance.
- Keep secrets, especially if they cause harm to any party.