**Health & Safety:**

**Everyone involved in activities with the Riding Club is required to comply with the**[**Health & Safety Policy**](http://www.crearewebsites.co.uk/victoria/solihull/dev/images/HSpolicy.pdf)**to ensure not only their personal safety but also that they do not place others at risk. The organiser of each event takes reasonable precautions to ensure the health and safety of everyone present. For such measures to be effective, everyone must take all reasonable precautions to avoid and prevent accidents occurring and must obey the instructions of the organisers, officials, and stewards at all times. Children must be under the supervision of a responsible adult at all times and adults are expected to take due care.**

#### **Aspley Guise & District Riding Club**

# Health and Safety Policy

## **Introduction**

The aim of this Health and Safety Policy is to ensure that every reasonable step has been made to keep all competitors, spectators and the general public safe.

Aspley Guise & District Riding Club (AGDRC) will identify the duties and responsibilities that all club members have to comply with to protect them and others from any hazards and risks in while taking part in riding activities.

**Health and Safety Policy Statement:**

AGDRC is strongly committed to encouraging all Members to take part in a range of equestrian activities in which the health, wellbeing and safety of each individual is always our paramount concern. We arrange varying levels of training and competition and encourage members to participate according to their ability.

**Health and Safety Policy:**

Health and Safety is everyone’s responsibility. In order to create a safe environment for participants, helpers and spectators at events we encourage all members to familiarise yourself with this policy, follow sensible rules for safe practices, and exercise common sense. This policy has been drawn up using the safety guidelines from the British Riding Clubs website and the Official Stewards and Organisers Handbook 2018 and you are encouraged to consult these if you would like further information.

We undertake risk assessments to anticipate potential hazards at all Club events, and reasonable measures have been put in place to address and reduce these risks as far as is reasonably possible.

A **Hazard**is: anything with the potential to cause harm.

A **Risk**is the chance that someone will be harmed by the hazard.

A **Risk assessment**is a formal recorded process to weigh up the suitability and safety of an activity identifying hazards and taking appropriate action to prevent harm or injury.

AGDRC is committed to the following duties:

* Undertake regular, recorded risk assessment of the club venues and all activities undertaken by AGDRC
* Create a safe environment by putting health and safety measures in place as identified by the assessment.
* Enable Members to access an appropriate level of training and competition.
* Ensure that all members are aware of, understand and follow AGDRC’s health and safety policy.
* Appoint a competent Committee Member to assist with health and safety responsibilities.
* Ensure that normal operating procedures and emergency operating procedures are in place and communicated to all assisting members involved in Club activities.
* Provide access to adequate first aid, as detailed in the event risk assessment, at all times.
* Report any injuries or accidents sustained during any AGDRC activity or whilst on the club venues – the Accident Book is kept with the organiser at the club event. Any serious injury or death must be reported within 24 hours to the following:
1. British Riding Clubs at Stoneleigh :

Laura Sanger, Head of BRC 02476 840518 email : laura.sanger@bhs.org.uk

1. RIDDOR http://www.hse.gov.uk/riddor/ – via online form or telephone 0845-3009923 Monday to Friday 08:30 to 17:00hrs or out of hours for incidents causing death or multiple casualties on 0151-9229235 The address is Incident Control Centre, Caerphilly, CF83 3GG
2. Health and Safety Executive.

AGDRC will ensure that the implementation of the policy is reviewed regularly and monitored for effectiveness.

**As a Club Member you have a duty to:**

* Take reasonable care for your own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by what you do or do not do.
* Co-operate with AGDRC on health and safety issues, and observe all instructions issued by club officials.
* Correctly use all equipment provided by AGDRC
* Ensure you do not interfere with or misuse anything provided for your health, safety and welfare.

**AGDRC would like to remind all Members and participants at Events that:**

* Horse riding is a risk sport. We recommend that all participants have adequate insurance cover. BRC/ AGDRC membership includes third party (public liability) cover. Non members must ensure that they have their own cover.
* Organisers, Competitors, Spectators, Members and Non Members participate entirely at their own risk.
* Club officials and Stewards are there at events to help maintain your safety. Please obey their advice and requests and be polite at all times.
* We ask that Members, Non Members, Competitors and Spectators take reasonable precautions whilst attending events, clinics, or other AGDRC activities to ensure their own safety and the safety of those around them.
* Potential and actual health and safety hazards, risks, accidents and incidents must be reported immediately to an AGDRC Committee Member or official Steward.
* Access to first aid facilities, telephone, and emergency services must be available at all AGDRC events. Speak to a Steward or Organiser if you require assistance. Emergency vehicular access must be maintained at all times.
* All accidents or incidents must be recorded without delay on an AGDRC Incident Report form ( held by the organiser / supervisor of the event )
* Members ( and participating Non Members ) must provide an up-to-date Emergency Contact so that these details can be held by Committee Members and at the club event for use by event organisers in case of emergency.

**AGDRC requires that:**

* Hat standards and dress rules as laid out in the British Riding Club Rule book must be adhered to by all competitors, hats must be worn fastened at all times when mounted. Correctly fitted (in accordance with manufacturers’ recommendations). Current standard riding hats: (BS) EN1384 are allowed for 2018 but the new standard PAS015 (2011) is required for 2018
* BETA Class 3 ( Purple 2009 or Blue 2018 label ) Body protectors are compulsory for all cross country events and are strongly recommended for show jumping.
* No vehicle is to be driven faster than walking pace (5mph) at any event.
* Tethered horses must not be left unsupervised or tied to fences and gates.
* Horses must not be lunged in competition or warm up areas.
* Horses must be ridden or led at walk outside the rings and must not be allowed to enter designated spectator areas.
* Spectators are not allowed in warm up or competition rings unless assisting with jumping equipment.
* Riders must observe rules of etiquette and pass LEFT to LEFT in warm up arenas.
* When using show jumping practice fences, fences must be jumped with the red flag on the rider’s right. Show jumping practice fences must be no higher than the current competition class.
* Stallions must be identified to the Show Organiser, led by a bridle and wear stallion discs as per British Riding Club Rules at all times.
* Riders and Handlers must ensure that gateways and paths are not obstructed.
* Children are much less aware of danger than adults, and all children less than 17 years of age must be supervised by an adult at all times.
* Foul language must not be used and will not be tolerated at AGDRC events.
* Dogs must be kept on a lead at all times and please clean up after your dog.
* Any Member, Non Member, Competitor or Spectator not willing to accept direction from Club Committee Members regarding health and safety issues may be excluded from the Activity/Event

This Health and Safety Policy for AGDRC must be reviewed annually.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name of Assessors | Signature | Date | Review date |
| Lynn Morgan |  | 18th November 2018 | 18TH November 2018 |
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