

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACTS 1964 & 1970

RIDING ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Licence Display

1. A copy of this licence must be suitably displayed to the public in a prominent position in the boarding establishment.
2. Name, address and telephone number of the licence holder or some other responsible person must be kept displayed in a prominent position on the outside of the premises. Further, the instructions as to action to be taken in the event of fire, with particular regard to the extrication of horses, must be kept displayed in a prominent position on the outside of the premises. The post code should also be displayed on the notice outside to help the emergency services locate the property.

Insurance

3. The licence holder shall hold a current insurance policy which insures him against liability for any injury sustained by those who hire a horse from him for riding and those who use a horse in the course of receiving from them, in return for payment, instruction in riding and arising out of the hire or use of a horse as aforesaid and which also insures such persons in respect of any liability which may be incurred by them in respect of injury to any person caused by or arising out of the hire or use of a horse as aforesaid.

Health & Safety

4. Persons undertaking any riding activity at the riding establishment should at all times wear suitable head protection, which complies with the current approved standard, that is PAS015 and BSEN 1384.

5. Protective headgear shall be replaced periodically according to use and manufacturers recommendations; damaged and dropped hats shall not be worn until checked for safe use by the manufacturers or other competent person.
6. All tack shall be maintained in a good and safe condition and regularly inspected for defects and deterioration; tack shall be appropriate for the horse concerned.

Use, Type and Number of Animals

7. No animals other than specified in the licence may be used in relation to the licenced activity.

Accommodation

8. There will be available at all times for horses, accommodation suitable as respects construction, size, number of occupants, lighting, ventilation, drainage and cleanliness. Specific recommendations are made in the Equine Codes and should be complied with.
9. Adequate accommodation must be provided for forage, bedding, stable equipment and saddlery.
10. Riding Establishment's should be kept in a good state of repair at all times.
11. Yards should be kept free from accumulations that can cause injury to the horse or riders.

Guidance: The British Horse Society recommend the following stable sizes:

Horses – 12' x 12' (3.65m x 3.65m)

Large Horses – 12' x 14' (3.65m x 4.25m)

Ponies – 10' x 10' (3.05m x 3.05m)

Large ponies – 10' x 12' (3.05m x 3.65m)

Animal Health and Welfare

12. Horses will be maintained in a good state of health, and, in the case of a horse kept for the purpose of it being let out on hire for riding or a horse kept for the purpose of its being used in providing instruction in riding, the horse will be suitable for the purpose for which in that case it is kept.

13. Horses will be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink and (except in the case of horses maintained at grass, so long as they are so maintained) bedding material, and will be adequately exercised, groomed and rested and (so far as necessary) visited at suitable intervals.
14. The hay and food shall not be mouldy or rat infested. Hard feed should be stored in vermin-proof containers.
15. In the case of horses maintained at grass there will be available for them at all times during which they are so maintained, adequate pasture and shelter and water and that supplementary feeds will be provided as and when required.
16. All reasonable precautions will be taken to prevent and control the spread among horses of infectious or contagious diseases and that veterinary first aid equipment and medicines shall be provided and maintained in the premises.

Fire Safety & Other Emergency Precautions

17. Appropriate steps must be taken for the protection of animals in case of fire or other emergency.
18. All stables must comply with the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 or the Fire Safety (Scotland) Order 2009. A fire risk assessment must be carried out and a pre-incident planning form logged with the local fire service.
19. Advice should be sought from local Fire Prevention Officer in relation to statutory requirements. All equipment and services (lighting units, fire extinguishers and alarm systems) should be kept clean, inspected and mains voltage should be installed by a competent electrician. Wiring and fittings should be inaccessible to animals, well insulated, safeguarded from rodents and properly earthed. All metal pipework and structural steelwork should be properly earthed. Highly inflammable liquid material or combustible material should not be stored in or close to stables where animals are housed. Roof beams and other ledges should be cleaned regularly. Smoking in stable areas is prohibited.
20. Fire extinguishers should be serviced annually and the last service date must be visible on an attached label.

Staffing

21. Sufficient number of people who are competent for the purpose must be available in order to provide the care that ensures the welfare of animals in care.
22. The licence holder or a designated manager and any staff employed to care for animals, must have the competence to identify the normal behaviour of the species for which they are caring and recognise signs of pain, injury, disease or abnormal behaviour.
23. The carrying on of the business of a riding establishment shall at no time be left in the charge of any person under 16 years of age.
24. No horse will be let out on hire for riding or used for providing instruction in riding without supervision by a responsible person of the age of 16 years or over unless (in the case of a horse let out for hire for riding) the holder of the licence is satisfied that the hirer of the horse is competent to ride without supervision.

Register of Animals

25. A register must be kept by the licence holder of all horses in his possession aged three years and under and usually kept on the premises, which shall be available for inspection by an authorised officer at all reasonable times.

Isolation

26. Isolation box / stable should be available for use at all times.

Waste

27. There must be provision for storage and disposal of manure and spoiled straw.