**PEEBLES MARCH RIDERS ASSOCIATION - CODE OF CONDUCT**

1. RESPONSIBILITIES OF HORSE RIDERS: We are aware that there will be a number of riders taking part in the ride/event who have not taken part in a similar activity before. Those intending to ride their own horse in an event like this for the first time should be aware that your horse may behave differently in a large group.

It should be noted that in a fast paced ride the off road section will be fast moving at times and all participants must be confident in canter and gallop.

It is the responsibility of all riders taking part to maintain good control of their mount throughout the ride/event. If a rider becomes dismounted at any time, it is their responsibility to either remount and rejoin the ride or return their horse to the horse box.

1. MARSHALS WILL BE IN CHARGE: There will be a number of riding marshals present on the ride. They will be identified by their armbands and due respect must be given to their requirements at all times. Foot Marshals will be positioned as required at gates and crossings and likewise their requirements should be respected. Any rider failing to adhere to the instructions of a marshal will be asked to leave the ride.

Any rider found to be intoxicated or unable to control their mount will be asked to leave the ride. Any rider who fails to keep up with the pace of the ride may be requested to leave.

Riders must not mount the pavement for any reason whatsoever.

THE MARSHAL’S DECISION IS FINAL.

1. DRESS CODE: Smart, appropriate riding and footwear will be accepted. It should be noted that protective headgear which meets current safety standards with a chin strap must be worn by all riders whilst mounted.
2. SOLO RIDER, HORSE LOAN/HIRE: Please ensure you have the contact details to hand at all times for the person responsible for the loaned/hired horse on the day or an emergency contact if you are a solo rider riding your own horse. If you are unable to continue on the ride for any reason then the horse will be led until we reach the next safe point on route, in timely manner ,from where it will need to be collected. All reasonable efforts must be made by the owner/hirer/responsible person to retrieve their horse.
3. YOUNG RIDERS: It should be noted that young or inexperienced riders under the age of 16 years old, should be accompanied at all times by a responsible, capable named adult also taking part on the ride.

Wristbands with an emergency contact name and number must be worn by all riders under 16 years of age. Riders not wearing a wristband will not be permitted on the ride.

1. THE ROUTE: The Rideout route has been pre-arranged in conjunction with the Police, Landowners and Scottish Borders Council. All riders are required to adhere to the agreed route. If for any reason a rider has to leave the ride early a marshal must be notified immediately.

It is essential to maintain a high standard of time keeping. To assist Police Scotland who control and manage the time we spend on public roads.

1. CONTINGENCY PROCEDURE: In the event of any problem arising, be it damage to gates, fences or vehicles, breakage of essential tack or injury to any horse or rider, immediate contact should be made with a marshal in order that appropriate action can be taken. It is the owner / hirer‘s responsibility for all costs incurred.
2. INJURED HORSES: It is the sole responsibility of the owner of any horse, which may be injured or fatally injured during the ride/event to cover any costs incurred for veterinary treatment or the removal of fatally injured horses.
3. INSURANCE: Please refer to the disclaimer below.

**DISCLAIMER**

Important notice to all those taking part in any Peebles March Riders Association Ride or Event

Whilst every care has been taken by the Peebles March Riders Association (PMRA) and relevant landowners in facilitating these events, PMRA and landowners will not be responsible for any injury to any person taking part nor liable for any damage resulting from any acts or omissions of any participants or spectators.

It is the responsibility of those taking part, or their legal guardians in the case of minors, to ensure that participants have appropriate and adequate insurance cover for personal injury and third-party liability cover and that they take all reasonable steps to ensure their own safe participation in the event. In particular in relation to equestrian events, they are advised to ensure both they and their mount are both suitable and competent for each specific event they partake in. All riders must wear appropriate protective clothing and footwear including headgear which meets current safety standards with a chin strap.

It is the recommendation that all participants should be in possession of a valid Equine Flu vaccination certificate. This is the owner’s responsibility to ensure the horses vaccinations are up to date.

The committee do not accept any liability for any accident, damage, injury or illness to any horse or rider or any other persons or property whatsoever and by entering our events you shall be deemed to have understood and agreed to these terms.

I agree to abide by the instructions of those in authority whilst attending any PMRA event. The committee reserve the right to take action against those who do not comply with these instructions. This may include not being allowed to participate, being told to leave the event or having membership withdrawn.

Please note that the Peebles March Riders Association reserve the right to refuse any person from participating in the event.