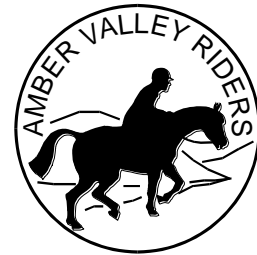


**Important information please read and retain for future reference**

## Amber Valley Riders Limited



**AVR is a non-competitive pleasure riding group. Our aim is to enjoy riding our horses along bridleways, tracks and country lanes for pleasure!**

Where possible, we have rides from April through to December. Ride dates may be added throughout the year as ride organisers kindly volunteer their time. There is an annual dinner at the end of the season when the Awards are given. **If you complete all rides you qualify for Platinum and then there will also be gold, silver and bronze awards for riders who complete fewer rides.** Qualification levels will be determined by how many rides are organised during the season and this will be a committee decision. You may ride on your own or we will try and find you someone to ride with. Joining our 'closed' Facebook group is a good way to find a like-minded 'riding buddy'.

**Please note:** Membership is valid from the date when completed membership documentation is received by the Membership Secretary and ride points will be accumulated from this date. Rides attended prior to this date will not count towards the tally for that season i.e. points will not be back-dated.

All ride entry forms are made available for download on the AVR website and also e-mailed to registered members. Postal entry forms are also sent to those who cannot access the internet or print their own. Our rides are between 10 and 15 miles and usually start between 10 and 11-30 am. You are expected to complete the ride in a reasonable time i.e. about 3 hours. At the Ride Organiser's discretion you may be allowed to leave after the last start time but will be asked to complete the shorter route if there is one available.

The basic price of a ride for members is £15 which often includes any parking or permit fees which have to be paid to a landowner(s) and rider refreshments.

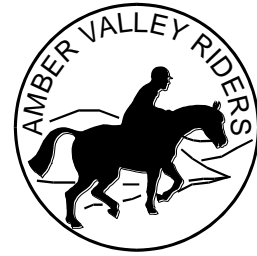
Non-members are allowed to participate in AVR events, but must provide proof of third party insurance every time (details are not held on file) and they must pay a higher entry fee.

If a member helps to marshal on the day instead of riding, this will be credited towards their end of season award tally. This means that marshalls are still able to achieve Platinum status when helping. AVR Ltd will also provide each marshal with a £15 voucher to redeem against the cost of a future AVR organised ride to show our appreciation of any help received.

The Committee reserve the right to penalise any members for breaking ANY of the Club rules.

Data held on club members will only be divulged to committee members for club business and not to any other party under the Data Protection Act

# AMBER VALLEY RIDERS LTD



## **GENERAL SAFETY POLICY STATEMENT**

The committee of Amber Valley Riders Ltd is committed to ensuring the Health and Safety of all its members, so far as is practicable to do so.

It will provide for each member such information/instruction as necessary to ensure the safety of their ride.

It will take all reasonable practicable measures to safeguard all members in its activities.

It will appoint a member of the committee to be responsible for each ride/activity.

The successful implementation of this Safety Policy requires total co-operation from all level of AVR Ltd.

All members have a legal obligation to take reasonable care for their own health and safety and the safety of others that may be affected by their actions.

All rides/activities will have a risk assessment prior to the ride (see notes of guidance for ride organisers).

Where risks are identified the committee member/ride organiser must try to rectify as far as it is practicable.

The committee members must report any accidents, incidents or near misses that are reported to them, and make sure these are recorded and any collective actions can be taken.

## **ORGANISATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Committee comprises of Chairman, Treasurer, Company Secretary, Ride Secretary, Minute Secretary, Health & Safety Officer and several other volunteer committee members.

Committee members are allocated to each ride and social activity as a Responsible Person.

## **MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITIES**

All members must:

Take responsibility for their own health and safety.

Consider the safety of others that may be affected by their acts or omissions.

Adhere to all information provided.

Refrain from intentional or reckless acts that may harm others.

Report any accident, near miss or dangerous occurrence to a committee member or ride organiser.

## **CLUB RULES**

1. All riders must wear approved standard hat whilst mounted and behave in a responsible manner. Please note that hat standards recently changed (2017) and riders are advised to check that their hat meets current standards. Information can be found at [www.bhs.org.uk](http://www.bhs.org.uk) and will be available on our website.
2. All riders under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult.
3. All horses must be in a fit condition either well shod, wear appropriate horse hoof boots or, if barefoot, hooves in good condition to carry out the work expected of them.
4. Tack must be in a safe condition and the horse must wear a conventional bridle. This includes bitless bridles as long as the rider is confident they are in control of their horse. This is for insurance purposes.
5. Minimum age of participating horses is 4 years without exception. Participating horses should also be ridden and not in hand.
6. Riders must be covered by their own third party insurance and sign a disclaimer. **Proof of valid third party insurance must be provided with membership. If renewal is within the season then it is the responsibility of the rider to provide proof of this renewal before subsequent ride events.**
7. Club tabards to be worn during the ride over the top of outer clothing so the numbers can be seen, and to be worn only by the member they are issued to.
8. Riders must slow to a walk when approaching other riders from behind and warn them of their intention to pass.
9. Riders must show consideration to pedestrians and other road users. Riders must stay on the path/track and not stray onto farmer's land or cross privately maintained grass/lawn/verges.

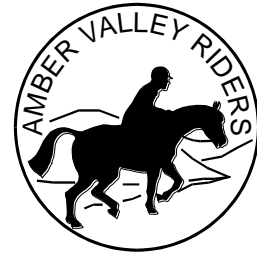
The committee reserves the right to penalise any members for breaking ANY of the above rules.

## **HEALTH AND SAFETY ASSISTANCE**

Committee members have been appointed responsible for each ride.

Each ride shall have the following:

1. First aid assistance.
2. Ride marshalls
3. Risk assessor/assessment
4. A copy of the health and safety policy will be displayed at each ride/activity.
5. A map of the ride to be displayed at the venue warning of any hazards.



## GUIDANCE NOTES FOR RIDE ORGANISERS

The following are general points to look for when organising a ride.

1. Plan the ride to ensure minimum risk and maximum safety.
2. Try to keep to bridleways, forest tracks, quiet lanes, etc., where possible.
3. Check traffic on prior Sunday to the ride if possible as quiet roads in the week may become a motorway at weekends or visa versa.
4. Check route for hazards. These can be virtually anything from electric poles with restraining wires attached, rocks, ground conditions underfoot, low tree branches, barbed wire fencing, bridges, water hazards and pigs, etc.
5. If any risks are found these should be clearly marked on the master map displayed at the venue, or find an alternative route if possible.
6. All road crossings except on very quiet minor roads warrant stewards.
7. Basically use common sense, if you think you are a risk at any time, so are other.
8. The number of marshalls required for each ride will be always determined by the ride organiser. Marshalls will be allocated their roles prior to the ride by the ride organiser. Unless required for the ride to run safely, last minute marshalls will not be permitted. Marshalls must be in good health and aged 16-75 in order to benefit from our 'marshall insurance'. Anyone under 16 must be supervised by a responsible adult.
9. Riders who volunteer their time to marshall an AVR ride will be given a food voucher, a voucher for a free ride (excludes charity ride entries) and a point towards the end of season awards.
10. Non-riders, members or otherwise, who volunteer their time to marshall an AVR ride will be given a food voucher and a token payment of £15 will be offered. Members will also be awarded a point towards the end of season awards.

Bear in mind not all horses and riders can cope with everything thrown at them, and that AVR can boast a wide variety of riders of all standards, and also size range in horses.

The main aim of having these rides is for everyone to have a pleasant and safe ride, for all to enjoy.