

## **PART G6 SADDLERY AND ACCESSORIES**

Equipment that is not explicitly permitted under this section must not be used unless an exemption has been issued under the provisions later in this section.

### **6.1 SADDLES**

The saddle **must** be correctly fitted for all Pony Club competitions, official functions and all rallies. A two finger (approx. 3 cm) width clearance to the wither should be obtained. With the exception of close contact saddles a 1 finger clearance is required when the rider is standing in their stirrups.

All saddles must be designed in such a way as to allow the stirrup leather to slide off easily in the case of a rider being dragged. Hinged stirrup bars must be left straight. If the saddle/pony pad does not have a stirrup bar which allows the stirrup to slide off, correctly fitted clogs or toe stoppers must be used in place of stirrup irons.

Swinging fenders are allowed when the following conditions are met:

Stirrup leather is attached to an open stirrup bar

Stirrup leather will easily slide off the stirrup bar without undue force

Stirrup iron attached to the leather is of a type that conforms with current rules

Note: Saddles must conform with current rules ie must have a tree, 2 separate girth points, surcingles in place where required

Western type saddles (horned) and ox-bow stirrups are not allowed for Pony Club use.

#### **6.1.1 SADDLE BLANKET**

The registered Pony Club saddle blanket is to be worn on top of any others. The saddle blanket must be bigger than the saddle so there are no pressure points, and must be pulled up into the gullet of the saddle before the girth is tightened.

#### **6.1.2 SADDLE PADS**

Foam risers are permitted. Gel pads are permitted. Correctly folded towels or blankets may be used as a temporary measure to improve the fit of a saddle enough to allow the rider to ride that day.

#### **6.1.3 GIRTHS / SURCINGLES / CRUPPERS / STUD GUARDS**

All saddles **must** have a girth point with two or three separate girth points, or a single girth point and a surcingle. Single buckle girths are not allowed without a surcingle. The girth must be firmly fitted. Adjustable single buckle girths are **not** permitted. Check stitching on the girth. Check girth for rotting and wear. Surcingles, cruppers and Stud Guards are permitted.

#### **6.1.4 STIRRUP LEATHERS**

All stirrup leathers **must** be on the outside of the saddle flaps. Stirrups or stirrup leathers **must** not be tied down to the girth or saddle flaps. Check stitching on the stirrup for rotting and wear. Excess length can be placed through the keepers on the saddle flap.

#### **6.1.5 STIRRUP IRONS / CLOGS**

There must be at least 5 mm clearance between the boot (widest part) and irons on both sides. A 10mm block **MUST** be used at all times when checking this. Safety stirrups which require rubber bands **must** be used with their correct rubber bands. Collapsible (hinged) stirrup irons are permitted but are not recommended.

Clogs are permitted. It is essential that there be at least 5 mm clearance between the boot and clog on both sides and at least 2 cm at the top. Toe stoppers are classed as clogs.

Bent irons (safety Irons) and oxbow are not allowed.

## 6.2 MARTINGALES

Standing or fixed martingales are not permitted.

A running martingale (“rings”) may be used. When a running martingale is fitted, stoppers must be used on all reins and above the chest piece (unless the rings are attached to a stockman’s breastplate). A running martingale must not be used in dressage. (no longer permitted in grade 5 eventing dressage)

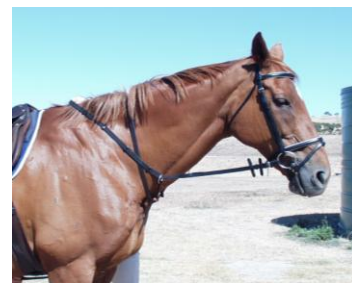
When the horse’s head is carried in the correct position for that horse’s level of education and the reins are held with contact, the rings should not be pulling down on the reins. When the bit becomes level with the horse’s wither the martingale comes into effect.



**Too loose and no stopper (slack dropped between legs so martingale does not come into effect)**



**Correct fit**



**Too tight – always pulling on the reins**

Irish martingales are permitted provided there are stoppers on the reins.

## 6.3 BREASTPLATES

Breastplates are permitted. Can be made of leather, PVC or elastic.

## 6.4 BRIDLES

Bridles can be made of leather or PVC. The brow band and throatlash **must not** be too tight or too loose

### 6.4.1 EAR BONNETTS

Ear bonnets are permitted for show jumping and cross country only with nothing to be placed in the ears.

### 6.4.2 FLY VEILS/SHIELDS

Not permitted in jumping or competition

### 6.4.3 POLLEN FILTER/NOSE SHIELD

Are permitted



### 6.4.4 REINS

Reins should be of a safe length for the activity (not long enough to be caught in rider's foot). If reins are knotted together then the buckle must be undone. Stitched reins must not be knotted together. Novelty reins are now permitted.



### 6.4.5 NOSEBANDS

Dropped, cross-over, grackle, Hanoverian, crank or cavesson nosebands may be used. Nosebands **must** be correctly fitted and not too low on the nose. A cavesson noseband must be used by itself.

### 6.4.6 SIDE REINS

Side reins may only be used for unmounted lunging.

## 6.5 BITS

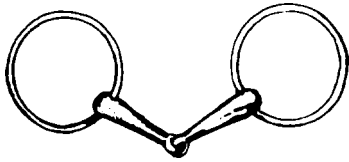
Snaffle bits should always be used. A snaffle has either a straight mouthpiece, a single joint or double joint. The rein and cheek strap attach to the same ring (with the exception of a Bouche snaffle). The Wilkie bit is now permitted (the rein must be able to move within the ring) The mouthpiece may be of metal, rubber, nylon or other synthetic material and must be smooth (not twisted). Hackamores and bosals are **forbidden** - a bit must be in the horse's mouth at all times while being ridden with reins attached to that bit. Cheek guards are permitted but not for dressage.

Chin straps be permitted at rallies as a training aid and are not to be used in competition.

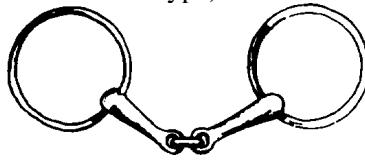
It is permissible for a gear checker to ask the rider to remove the bridle if a closer examination of the bit is required.

**6.5.1 BITS ALLOWED FOR DRESSAGE**

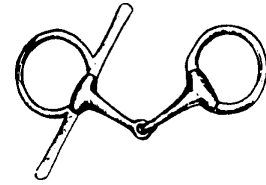
Ordinary snaffle with jointed mouthpiece



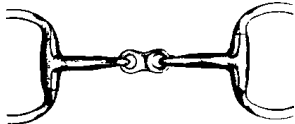
Loose ring snaffle with double jointed mouthpiece (including “KK” type)



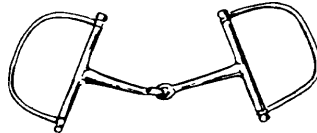
Eggbutt snaffle (both with and without cheeks)



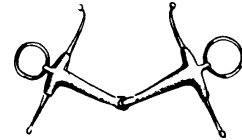
French snaffle (not Dr Bristol)



Racing snaffle



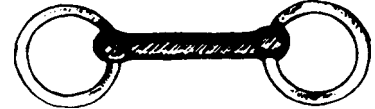
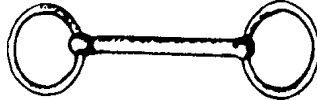
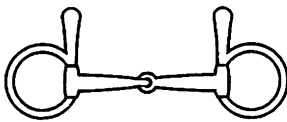
Other type of snaffle with cheeks



Snaffle with upper cheeks only

Unjointed snaffle

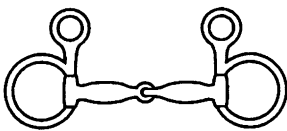
Rubber snaffle, jointed or unjointed



Bouche snaffle

Myler comfort snaffle

Wilkie bit



Myler bits level one mouthpieces MB01R, MB02R, MB03R, MB09R, MB10R  
 Myler bits cheeks, loose ring, loose ring with sleeve, English D ring, dee without hooks, English egg-butt, boucher, half cheek, full cheek  
 No cheek with hooks is allowed for Dressage.

R=regular

The W tongue lay is allowed. *This is not a bit but may be used in conjunction with a correctly fitted bit to prevent a horse getting it's tongue over the bit.*

**6.5.2 BITS ALLOWED FOR JUMPING AND MOUNTED GAMES**

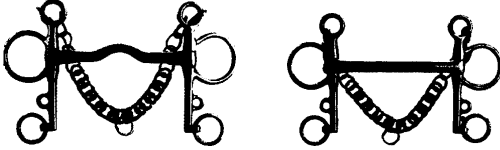
All bits allowed for Dressage are also allowed for Jumping and Mounted Games.

Rubber cheekers are permitted for all non-competition riding, and all non-dressage phases of competition.  
 Myler bits level two, low port comfort snaffle MB04R, mullen barrel MB 32R.  
 Myler bits cheeks, loose ring, loose ring with sleeve, English D ring, small dee without hooks, English egg-butt, boucher, half cheek, full cheek

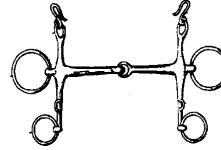
## PELHAM

All Pelhams must be used complete with equalisers. (The equaliser on the Balanced Pelham must be at least 20cm in length measured between the buckles.) The split rein form of Balanced Pelham is not permitted. If a chain is used it must be fitted with a chain guard.

Permitted Pelhams (chainguard is also required).

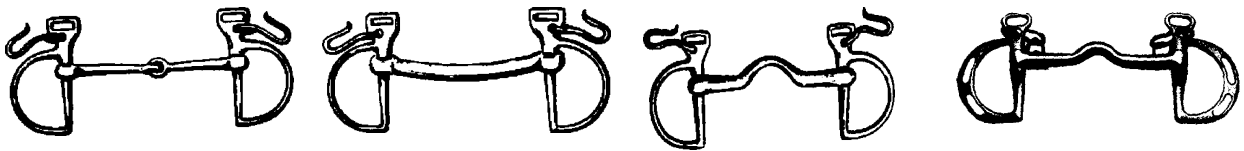


The jointed pelham is permitted



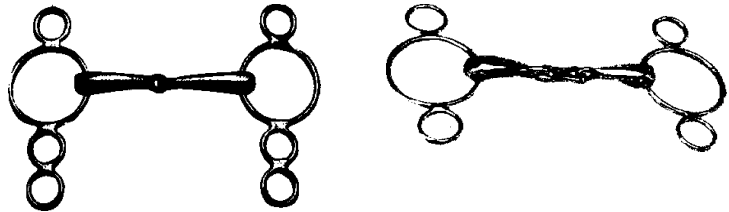
## SPANISH SNAFFLE (KIMBLEWICK)

The Spanish snaffle must be worn as a complete unit. The form of Spanish snaffle with slotted rings is permitted. If a chain is used it must be fitted with a chain guard



## PESSOA

The Pessoa (“Dutch Gag”) is permitted. This bit may not be modified in any way. Reins must be attached to the same ring on each side of the bit. Equalisers are permitted, curb chains are not permitted.



**Bits with chains are to use a cavesson nose band only.**

### 6.5.3 EA bits (Approved in 2016)

Associate and senior riders who hold their C certificate and adult riders with the exception of the PCASA banned list be allowed to use any approved EA bit.

For approved bits in 2016 see EA annex at rear of PCASA rule book.

## 6.6 NECK STRAPS/MONKEY STRAPS

It is recommended that a neck strap be used for all rallies and events. Monkey straps are allowed. Neck straps can be made of leather, synthetic or plaited binder twine.

## 6.7 WHIPS

### 6.7.1 GENERAL PURPOSE WHIP

Whips of not more than 75 cm overall length, including flap, may be used. Whips must have a leather flap at least 50mm long and 18mm wide. The loop **must** be removed from the handle of any whip.

General purpose whips may be used in grade 4 and 5 dressage tests only.

### **6.7.2 DRESSAGE WHIP**

Dressage whips may be used by

1. Riders who hold their “C” certificate and have written permission from their club chief instructor. Where there is no club Chief Instructor the Zone Chief Instructor may provide such a letter. The Zone Chief Instructors will then add a sticker to performance/dressage cards confirming that they hold a C certificate.
2. Adult combinations 26 years and over

Dressage whips must not exceed 1.15 m length including lash and must not be modified (i.e., flap removed). The loop **must** be removed from the handle of any whip.

Dressage whips are permitted for:

1. Flatwork at rallies
2. Dressage competition which is not part of a one, two or three day event
3. Warm up for any dressage, competition including ODE’s

### **6.8 SPURS**

Only spurs without rowels are permitted. The neck of a dummy spur must only point to the rear and may not exceed 35mm in length and must not be under 7 mm at the point of the neck,. If the spur is curved the curve must point downwards. Prince of Wales spurs are permitted.

Spurs **must not** be worn in any grade 5 pony club activity including adult riders.

### **6.9 BOOTS**

Boots must have buckles or Velcro fastenings. Bell boots are permitted. Boots are not permitted for dressage or showing classes.

### **6.10 BANDAGES**

Cloth bandages must be stitched with contrasting coloured thread. Bandages are not permitted for dressage or showing classes. The use of electrical tape for bandages is forbidden.

### **6.11 GRASS REINS**

Grass reins are permitted at rallies for any rider.

Horse must be able to reach down to their knee height.

**In competition they will be permitted for riders**

**10 years of age & under.**

**Grass reins must be made from a non-wearing material which is able to be cut with a knife.**

Grass reins fitted as following photo are allowed for grade 5/E grade jumping



## **6.12 BANNED EQUIPMENT – EXEMPTIONS WILL NOT BE GIVEN**

- |                         |                          |                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| A) Blinkers             | B) Running or Draw Reins | C) Fixed Martingales |
| D) Bosals or Hackamores | E) Market Harborough     | F) running gag       |
| G) Waterford snaffle    | H) Bent iron (stirrups)  | I) Oxbows            |
| J) Chambon              |                          |                      |

## **6.13 EQUIPMENT REQUIRED FOR CERTIFICATES AND ACHIEVEMENT PATCHES**

Equipment not usually permitted under pony club rules (for example, a double bridle, vaulting roller, stock whip) is permitted for use at rallies under the supervision of an appropriate person, when a rider is working towards certificates or achievement patches.

## **6.14 EXEMPTIONS**

Exemptions process requests will only be considered and recommended for approval by CIP to Exec with:  
Written medical/veterinary support or  
Written support from the rider's club and zone with  
DVD recording of the rider with such equipment and with formerly used equipment.  
If permission is granted, the rider will be issued with a laminated card with a photo of approved equipment, which must be sighted by gear checkers. Exemptions are only granted in **extreme** circumstances.

Exemption cards issued by Riding for the Disabled for use at EA events will be accepted by Pony Club.

## **6.15 GEAR CHECKERS PLEASE NOTE:**

Bearing in mind the safety of the rider and the legal liability, the gear checker should not under any circumstances, alter or adjust any gear or equipment. The gear checker should request that the competitor make the necessary adjustment and that they report back when those adjustments have been carried out.

Should there be any dispute regarding gear, refer the matter to the chief judge of the appropriate section.