

FAQ Corralling

Advice to Riders on Corralling

A corral is constructed from poles (normally plastic) with tape or cord capable of holding an electric current and suitable for use with horses. An energiser with a suitable power source and earth rod is connected to the tape/string and it provides a pulsing current which should deter horses from touching or escaping.

Horses should be introduced and accustomed to using a corral in a safe controlled environment before attending a ride. Corralling is offered at many of our rides, especially our multi day rides.

Corrals should be booked before the ride.

Size – corrals should be approx. 5m square but depending on the space and ride instructions this may vary. Poles should be of a size suitable for horse/pony being corralled i.e. 3' poles for ponies, 4' or 5' for larger horses or those needing a more significant deterrent. There should be at least 2 separate strands of tape round the corral. Unless specifically agreed with the Organiser, there must be only one horse per corral.

Tape – It is recommended that large reels of tape are not used, there should only be sufficient for constructing the corral. Tape or cord may be used but it must be in good condition so that the current is carried efficiently. A tester may be used to check this. Fences must not be slack or in contact with vegetation. If guy ropes are used, they should be conspicuous and not in the walkways.

Energiser – All corrals must be connected to a suitable working energiser with sufficient power to provide an effective barrier. All corrals must be electrified when in use. Anyone seeing a corral in use without suitable power has a duty to report it to the RO/TS or H&S Rep.

ID Tags – All corrals must have a corral tag giving the rider name, vehicle, contact number and horse name – this will be supplied by the Ride. It is recommended that a horse has a field safe head collar, this should be tagged with a name/contact number - rope head collars for example are not suitable, Riders may wish to create their own tag for this purpose. It is useful to leave a lead rope at the corral.

Responsible Person – where the rider is not staying at the Venue, then a responsible person must be designated and their details shown. That person must know and be capable of handling that horse.

Corralling Area – It is the responsibility of every person at the ride to ensure that gates and fences around any corralling area are kept closed and the area is secure. Any concerns must be reported to the RO/TS or H&S rep. Tents are not allowed in a corralling area. Corrals may only be put up in the designated areas. Safe walkways of at least 2m must be left to allow safe access to corrals. Normally at least 1m should be left between adjacent corrals.

Rugs – if a horse is rugged then the rider must ensure that it is still safe to corral, that it will still feel the effect of the electric fence. Thick neck rugs may protect the horse from the electric current.

RO/TS/H&S Reps may carry out spot checks on corrals at any time. If a corral is not safe or suitable the rider will be asked to resolve any concerns, change to stabling (payment of an extra charge may be required) or leave the Venue.

Forage – it is unlikely that there will be enough grass in the corral to satisfy your horse, so additional forage will be needed – hay, haylage, etc together with a good supply of water.

Muck – the Organiser will advise riders as to the arrangements for the disposal of the muck and surplus forage. At some Venues this may need to be taken home, so plastic bags may be needed. Corral areas must be left clean when leaving the Venue, or deposits (if charged) will not be returned.

Payment – corrals are booked and paid for before arriving at the venue. The charge is per horse.

Daytime Corrals – corralling during the day and stabling at night may be an option at some rides. These corrals may be smaller and there will be times specified when they must not be in use.

Ride rules regarding corralling may be in the ride information or in the Office on the day, ignoring them may result in penalties.

Horses are corralled at the riders/owners own risk and all of the above and any RO instructions must be followed.