

Minimus Championships – Information for Parents

- **Reminder of Rules/Some last minute Tips that you should go through with your child**
 - **GATE** – Take your time, you have a minute and this is a long time. Make sure that the rope is fully down before leaving the gate. If you are taking too long and told to go on, you should immediately go on, there is no benefit in trying to complete the gate task as you are over the minute.
 - **SLIP RAIL** – Remember the 60 seconds starts when you pass the markers on the ground.
 - **Overtaking** – if a rider wants to pass out a child in front of them that is going slow they should do this when there is a good gap between fences and they should SHOUT **COURSE** to the other competitor when passing. If not they should circle so that they are not too close to the pony in front of them when approaching the next fence.
 - If they are close to the fence and need to circle because they are too close to another competitor, they should SHOUT **NOT PRESENTING** (a couple of times if required) to ensure that the fence steward have heard them.
 - If they are coming close to another competitor, or someone has just stopped at the fence they are about to jump, they need to decide quickly whether to SHOUT COURSE so the person who is having problems gets out of the way BUT if they don't move, then they should shout NOT PRESENTING and when the fence is clear take it on. Riders may also need to SHOUT COURSE if a person is walking in front of the fence.
- **Kildare Hunt Pony Club and IPC Reminders**
 - No one is permitted to stand up or interfere with the course jumps.
 - We must keep the venue tidy as always.
 - No corralling of ponies or tying them to the side of boxes will be allowed in the day parking area (there are plenty of areas for grazing this year once the animals are attended to at all times)
- **Food/Refreshments for the Weekend**
 - Mark and Kirsty Donohue have kindly sponsored a marque for us for the weekend so it will be a great central point for us, plus a place for sun and rain cover !
 - Snacks – If everyone can bring a snack, boiling water, cold water so that kids and parents and CHPC visitors can help themselves to a drink and a bun throughout Saturday and Sunday. Fruit would also be welcome so that kids in

particular can snack on this during the warm weather. If you can remember to freshen up your flasks for Sunday.

- Everyone should bring a table, chairs and delph for their own family
- BBQ – We are going to cook a BBQ on Saturday evening. If every family can give €10 to Melanie Foot towards the meat, we also have some money in the kitty. Because the BBQ will not be until around 4.00/5.00 pm, you should bring some lunch as it will likely be an early start and a long day.
- Tidy Up – If everyone can bring towels, and a couple of bin bags so we can keep our marque clean and tidy and also tidy up after ourselves on Sunday evening.

***** SCHEDULE *****

- **Friday**

- Course walk with Jimmy Dermody is at **4:00 pm**. Riders should wear their red CHPC sweater or a red minimus hoodie. Parents should stay behind to allow Jimmy instruct the kids on how to ride the course. We need to collect €5 per competitor to cover Jimmy's costs (envelope with child's name would be appreciated).
- It is recommended that parents walk the course again that evening with their own child after the course walk with Jimmy. This will give you an opportunity to discuss Option fences and also to help your child learn the course well.
- Parents may wish to walk the course for a third time on Saturday morning between 8:00 – 9:30. Course walking while the competition is in progress is not allowed for safety reasons. Trainers and parents may walk the perimeter of the course but must not walk close up to fences while the competition is in progress.
- Parents and Trainers are asked to ensure that children do not climb on fences or adjust them in any way when walking the course.
- Valerie will collect the CHPC competition numbers on Friday afternoon but will hold on to them until Saturday morning in case they are lost in between.

- **Saturday**

- There are over 400 competitors entered for the competition. Our running order for cross country will be known on Thursday and a text will be sent out to parents.
- We can assemble that morning at our Marquee which should be well spotted with our Pony Club sign. I understand the tents are going to be on the left hand side. The parking stewards will advise where to park our boxes but I

have been advised that we will be close to the our marque and where all the stalls and IPC tent are.

- Ponies should be plaited and well turned out with white numnahs, preferably the CHPC numnahs. Best Turn-out Trophy presented by the Ward Union Branch, will be judged by persons on the cross-country course. The Tack and Turnout prize has been extended to include team spirit, good manners, behaviour and attitude of members, parents & branch officials.
- Before we all head over for tack inspection we will try and get a photo of the full group and each team.
- A chef d'Equip will be assigned to each team to ensure the team is properly tacked up, and to warm up each team. Parents should not interfere with the kids when they are warming up and any outside assistance when the kids are on course will mean automatic elimination of the competitor, no exceptions.
- The running course will be opened from 5.00 pm on Saturday evening and again at 1.00 pm on Sunday.
- We need to mark at least 1 cross country fence for the day, if anyone can mark a fence for an hour on Saturday, please contact Valerie 087-9857633
- Cross Country Scores – After your child rides, you should check with them if they had problems at any fences (or were held up) so to estimate what penalties they should get. X/C scores will be posted on the main board and we only have 1-2 hours to put in an objection if we feel a riders marks are incorrect. Objections must go through the DC's or Valerie Farrell, parents should not raise queries with the IPC directly.

- **Sunday**

- Each child will be assigned a swim time for **Sunday morning**. The swim is taking place in Athy Swimming Pool. First warm up is at 7:45. Competitors should arrive 30 mins to one hour before their warm up time.
- The run will take place back at Punchestown **Sunday afternoon** at around 2.00. The kids will get a chip pin so that their time is recorded. John and Liz Mahon and Derek Kehoe can help warm up the kids and we should assemble down at the track at least 30 minutes before the run starts. CHPC will go out together in their teams.
- After the run we will assemble back at our Marque, the presentation is scheduled for 4.00 pm. Pack extra white clean jods for the presentation 😊

Minimus - List of what to bring to Punchestown

Riding Gear

- Correct Skull cap <http://www.irishponyclub.ie/files/Approved-Hat-Standards.pdf>
- Stock and pin (pin may not be needed)
- Cross Country Jersey in Carlow Colours
- White or cream jods
- Boots or chaps (kids cannot compete with just short riding boots, they must have chaps)
- Riding Socks
- Wet gear and wellies
- Medical Arm Band (inside: child's photo, Pony Club membership card, medical details)
- Number Bib
- Back protector

Pony

- **Pony passport**
- Saddle
- Bridle (cropper if required)
- Numnah (plain white)
- Studs if required
- Head-collar and lead rope
- Insulation tape
- Boots for pony if required
- Rug/sweat rug
- Fly Spray
- Tack box
- If stabling
 - Water bucket
 - Feed bucket
 - Feed and Hay

Swimming Gear

- Swim Hat (Carlow swim hats now available from Bairbre Wall)
- Goggles and spare set
- Togs
- Towels
- Flip Flops
- Water Bottle

Running Gear

- T-Shirt, ideally red
- Shorts
- Runners/Spikes
- Socks
- Tracksuit
- Hoddie
- Bring Carlow Flags for our tent.



And SUNSCREEN