

Fernie Team Chase – Administrative Guidelines

THESE MATTERS ARE FOR THE INFORMATION OF ALL COMPETITORS AND SPECTATORS AT THE EVENT

In addition to their role in respect of the MFHA Cross Country Team Chase rules, the Stewards will be responsible for ensuring fair play at the event, with the best interests of Team Chasing at heart, and in particular with regard to:

1. **MARKING OF COURSE** - The Novice Class course will be marked by white numbers on a blue background, the Championship will be marked by white numbers on a red background and The UK Hunt & Intermediate Team Chase courses will be marked by black numbers on a white background.
2. **WINNING TIME** – The National Championship, ROR Fernie Intermediate & Novice “Speed”, the fastest team to complete the course will win. The UK Hunt Team Chase, the fastest team to complete the special timed section of the course (to be known as ‘The Hunting Zone’) will win, so long as the 3 counting Members of the team do not incur any rider or horse falls on the entire course and the time they take to complete the entire course is not be more than 30 seconds slower than the total time of the fastest team’s entire round. The Novice “Bogey” Class, ‘the team nearest the ‘bogey’ time will win. The ‘Bogey’ time will be determined by the organisers in advance of the event, and will be equivalent to a standard hunting pace around the course in the prevalent conditions. Falls will be penalised by time only. In the event of a dead heat between teams, the time of the fourth horse will count.
3. **DAMAGE TO FENCES** - When damage occurs to a fence, the event will continue at the discretion of the Organisers with that part of the fence damaged marked with white crossed sticks which must not be jumped by the competitors.
4. **DRESS** - Competitors in the Novice, Intermediate and National Championship Classes must wear standard cross country dress. All teams in the UK Hunt Team Chase will be required to wear either standard Hunt dress or a black, blue or red jersey to match normal hunting attire. Body protectors may be worn either under or over Hunt Dress or Black/Blue/Red Jerseys.
5. **NUMBER CLOTHS** – The deposit for the 4 number cloths (MFHA rule 26) will only be refundable when ALL 4 cloths are returned. These must be worn by all team members in accordance with the colours declared in the event Programme. Failure to do so will incur elimination from the competition.
6. **TEAM CAPTAINS** – It is the Team Captain’s responsibility to ensure that each member of the team has read and adheres to all the rules.
7. **EXERCISING OF HORSES** - Horses may only be exercised in the area provided. No competitor may ride on, or over, or near the course or nominated car parking areas, except when actually competing.
8. **CUPS** - All cups must be returned to the Hon. Secretary at least 7 days prior to the following year’s event – any damage or loss must be reimbursed at cost of replacement. The holder shall be responsible for insurance of the cup.
9. **DOGS ON LEADS** – All dogs must be kept on leads at all times.
10. **COMPLIANCE WITH OFFICIAL DIRECTIONS** - Riders and Owners of competing horses and their grooms must obey any order or direction given to them by a responsible official and in particular they shall not do anything liable to upset or hinder the smooth running of the Event.
11. **PRIZEGIVING** – All competitors are encouraged to attend the prizegiving. The winning teams shall be required to attend photocalls and give interviews to journalists where requested by the organisers.
12. **CAR PASSES** – Admission to the event in any vehicle other than a horsebox will only be permitted where a valid car pass can be displayed to the gateman or on payment of the appropriate admission price. Car passes will be circulated to all officials in advance. In addition each team competing in the Novice Class will be eligible for one £10 car pass on receipt of an s.a.e. by the Hon Secretary. Each Inter-Hunt/Intermediate team will be eligible for two £10 car passes & each Open team will be eligible for three £10 car passes. No further car passes will be available prior to the event, and a team’s car pass(es) will not be sent out other than where an s.a.e. is received by the Secretary in sufficient time prior to the event.
13. **OVERNIGHT ACCOMMODATION** - If help is required with overnight accommodation and/or stabling for team members and their horses (which can be provided locally), please contact the Secretary as early as possible for details of appropriate contacts. The Team Captain shall be held responsible for any unsatisfactory late cancellations of confirmed bookings. All requests must be made before Saturday 25th March.

The 18th Annual UK Hunt Team Chase, and The ROR Fernie Intermediate

SPECIAL RULES

This class will be run under the MFHA Cross-Country Team Chase Rules, and in accordance with the Administrative Guidelines for the Fernie Team Chase. The following special rules will also apply:

1. Entries will only be accepted for **The UK Hunt Team Chase** from teams of three or four subscribers or hunt servants from one Hunt only, with the name of the Hunt in front of the Team name (eg. Fernie Friendlies, Warwickshire Wobblers, Puckeridge Punters, Tiverton Tigers, Tynedale Thrusters etc). The competition is open to subscribers and hunt servants of all properly recognized packs of hounds in the United Kingdom and Ireland, including any drag or bloodhounds providing they are properly registered with their relevant hunt association.
2. Entries for **The ROR Fernie Intermediate** and **The UK Hunt Team Chase** will be accepted from teams of three or four riders who are sufficiently competent to tackle an Intermediate Team Chase course.
3. **No team in the UK Hunt Team Chase may consist of more than one rider who has previously competed in the National Team Chase Championship during the preceding three years.**
4. Each Hunt may enter as many teams as it wishes. In the event of over-subscription, entries will be limited and it may be necessary to restrict the number of teams per Hunt.
5. Each UK Hunt Team Chase team must have confirmation from a Master of their Hunt that EVERY member of the team is a subscriber to, or Hunt Servant of, the Hunt they are representing and has hunted on at least four occasions with that hunt during the current season, in order to make their entry valid (the signature of the Master is required on the entry form). The organisers reserve the right to seek further clarification if required.
6. Late substitutions will be allowed, but the additional Master’s Certificate in respect of any late substitute must be lodged with the Secretary in advance of the competition.
7. **In the UK Hunt Team Chase (only), at least 3 members of every team will be required to pass through a hunting gate which must be opened, passed through and properly shut by at least three members of that team and the gateshutter must have remounted before any members of the team jump the next fence in the timed zone. A steward will indicate when the gate has been satisfactorily shut. Any team failing to do so will incur a 15 second time penalty.**
8. Teams will only be eligible for prize money if the 3 counting members of the team complete the entire course without a horse or rider fall.
9. Any team completing the UK Hunt Team Chase course in a slower time than the “Maximum Available Time” posted on the day of the event will not be eligible for any prizes within that competition. This time will be calculated on the basis of a slow hunting pace around the entire course in the prevalent conditions. Teams will only be eligible for prize money where they complete the entire course in a time which is within 30 seconds of the fastest team around the entire course during the class.
10. In the UK Hunt Team Chase (only) a travel allowance will be returned to competing teams, on return of number cloths to the Secretary’s Tent on day of the event, based on £20 per team for those teams from Hunts whose kennels are more than 50 miles away and £30 per team for those Hunts whose kennels are situated over 80 miles from the course. All distances will be measured as the crow flies from the venue of the event to that hunt’s kennels. The Organiser’s decision on amount of allowance to be paid to a team shall be final.