

As part of a new initiative, Halswell Pony Club is offering an 80cm class at our event that will NOT have XC time faults added to the overall score.

The idea behind this initiative is to allow riders to ride at a speed which makes them feel comfortable and confident, allowing their horse/pony to find its own rhythm and hopefully grow in confidence without the pressure of making the Optimum time. Your time will still be taken, and the rules around the official Time Allowed (taking more than double the Optimum time to complete the XC, results in Elimination) will still stand.

However if you do exceed the Optimum time, your time faults will not be added to your final score.

Possible reasons for entering this class may include:

- You are new to Eventing and don't feel safe travelling at the required mpm for this level.
- Your horse/pony gets very excited on XC and you find it hard to slow them down if they get too fast.
- You are riding a green horse and would like to take things slowly so that they don't get overwhelmed.
- Your horse/pony tends to rush at jumps and you would like to use this as an educational event.
- You are a new combination
- You are new to competing at this height
- You have enough to think about just remembering all of the jumps, without having to worry about making the time as well.

If you choose to enter this class, we need you to be aware of the following:

- If the rider ahead of you is travelling at a slower speed and you catch up to them, please be patient and communicate your desire to pass them if there is an appropriate place to do so. It is not acceptable to pass when the rider in front is approaching the next fence, and it is also not acceptable to follow them over a jump. It is considered dangerous riding to enter a combination of jumps before the horse in front has completed the combination.
- If you are the slower rider, make sure that you are aware that other riders may catch up to you. Please be courteous and allow these riders to pass when you can find an appropriate place to do so.
- This is a competition and we do have a lot of other riders that we need to get through before dark, so please be considerate of this.
- This initiative is a trial and we will be seeking feedback, so please be ready to answer a few questions around your experience.