

Oxford Pony Club

NZPCA First Start Event & Fleetwood First Start Trophy 2026

***Level 1 Lead Rein riders 12 years and under**

***Level 1 Off Lead Rein 12 years and under**

***Level 2 Assisted 18 years & under –**

Off Lead Rein Can be assisted for Jumping Phases

***Level 2 Rider 12 years and under**

***Level 2 Rider 13 years not over 17 years old**

***Level 3 Rider 12 years & under**

***Level 3 Rider 13 years not over 17 years old (as at 1st August)**

*** Level 3 Experienced Rider on Green Horse or Inexperienced Rider returning to riding**

SUNDAY 24th MAY 2026

Grounds open 7.00am

Carlton Domain - 2403 Oxford Road

Coffee Cart, Lil' Orbit Donuts, Sausage Sizzle, fizzy and water available to purchase, please bring cash with you.

Oxford Pony Club would like to extend a huge Thank You to the TD, course designer, judges, sponsors, scorers, Event Secretary and the massive amount of helpers. Without all these people this day would not be possible.

- **Teams Entries Close 30 April May 2026.**
- **Individual Entries Open 1st May 2026 & Close 19th May 2026.**



All riders to report to an official following a fall. Medical clearance must be obtained before remounting or competing.

Concussion: A rider must not compete or participate in mounted Pony Club events or activities for a minimum of twenty - one (21) days following a concussion, without a doctor's written clearance.

Riders must supply their own back number holder

Back numbers will be emailed for riders to print. Helmets: Yellow tagged riding helmets must be always worn, at all levels, during the competition.

Back protectors are compulsory for cross country phases. See Back Protector guide

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/disciplines/eventing/resources/riders/>

NO SMOKING ON GROUNDS

Gear check required for **ALL Phases**

Absolutely no dogs allowed on grounds

No Plaiting, jackets optional, pony club members are welcome to ride in their Club Uniform.

Fleetwood First Start Trophy 2026

The aim is to provide a Canterbury competition on similar lines to Springston Trophy Team Championships, catering for teams from Pony Club Branches. This will enable junior riders, who are starting their eventing path, team exposure at lower heights, to participate in a team competition, thus stimulating team spirit at lower levels.

The competition will take the form of ODE at First Start Level 2 & 3 heights, comprising three phases, Dressage, First Start Cross country and Show Jumping.

The competition will be held annually by Oxford Pony Club, with the trophy returned for the following year.

The FLEETWOOD FIRST START TROPHY, presented by Mr and Mrs Fleetwood, will be awarded to the winning team.

This competition is for riders who have not yet competed above First Start level 3 in ODE competitions or have attempted 1x 65cm and not had a successful live score at the completion of the competition & moved back to First Start to gain more confidence and experience.

The team competition will be scored in accordance NZPCA First Start rules using **9.5.1 conventional scoring system for Eventing except for no time penalties.** (refer to Pages 5 & 6 First Start regulations). The winning team will be the team with the highest score from individual results combined for a team total.

Each Pony Club can nominate a team of THREE OR FOUR riding at either Level 2 or 3. The scores in all three phases for THE TOP THREE riders will be added together to give the team total.

All entries by TEAMS will be made by a date notified by the ORGANISING COMMITTEE.

A TEAM will comprise of: THREE or FOUR riders entered in Level 2 or 3 (not assisted).

All Club TEAM entries will nominate the rider and horse/pony combination entered in the event on the separate entry form. Riders are also eligible for individual placings in the event.

All Team entry forms must be signed by the Branch Head Coach.

To be eligible to compete in the FLEETWOOD FIRST START COMPETITION a rider must have been a member of the BRANCH of a Pony Club, for which he/she is competing for a period of 90 days prior to the first day of the competition (Dispensation may be applied for by contacting the organising committee) Competitors must be financial members of their Branch or Club.

Composite club teams are eligible.

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	Guidelines	Dressage	Show Jumping/Obstacle Course	Cross Country
<u>CLASS 1</u> <i>NZPCA First Start Level 1 Lead Rein riders 12 years and under</i>	Lead must be attached to noseband. Directions for Leader - refer to First Start Regulation 7 www.nzpca.org/Technical-and-Events/First-Start Tests may be called/commanded by caller outside arena at B or E.	First Start Lead Rein Dressage Test II	Obstacle Course	NA
<u>CLASS 2</u> <i>NZPCA First Start Level 1 Off Lead Rein 12 years and under</i>	Can be assisted however not allowed to touch pony or rider. Dressage Tests may be called/commanded by caller outside arena at B or E.	NZPCA Riding Test 2018 BG2	Obstacle Course	NA
<u>CLASS 3</u> <i>NZPCA First Start Level 2 Assisted Jumping</i>	Off Lead Rein can be assisted for the jumping, assistant can be next to the jumps but not go over any themselves. Dressage Tests may be called/commanded by caller outside arena at B or E.	NZPCA Riding Test 2018 BG4	Show Jumping Height 30cm	Cross Country Height 30cm-50cm (Most at lower height)
<u>***CLASS 4***</u> <i>NZPCA First Start Level 2 Rider 12 yrs and under</i>	Dressage Tests may be called/commanded by caller outside arena at B or E.	NZPCA Riding Test 2018 BG4	Show Jumping Height 30cm	Cross Country Height 30cm- 50cm (Most at lower height)
<u>***CLASS 5***</u> <i>NZPCA First Start Level 2 Rider 13yrs & not over 17yrs</i>	Dressage Tests may be called/commanded by caller outside arena at B or E.	NZPCA Riding Test 2018 BG4	Show Jumping Height 30cm	Cross Country Height 30cm-50cm (Most at lower height)
<u>***Class 6***</u> <i>NZPCA First Start Level 3 Rider 12yrs and under</i>	Dressage Tests may be called/commanded by caller outside arena at B or E.	NZPCA Riding Test 2018 BG4	Show Jumping Height Up to 50cm	Cross Country Height Up to 50cm
<u>***Class 7***</u> <i>NZPCA First Start Level 3 Rider 13yrs & not over 17yrs</i>	Dressage Tests may be called/commanded by caller outside arena at B or E.	NZPCA Riding Test 2018 BG4	Show Jumping Height Up to 50cm	Cross Country Height Up to 50cm
<u>CLASS 8</u> <i>NZPCA First Start Level 3 Experienced Rider on Green horse or Inexperienced/returning to riding</i>	Dressage Tests may be called/commanded by caller outside arena at B or E.	NZPCA Riding Test 2018 BG4	Show Jumping Height UP to 50cm	Cross Country Height Up to 50cm

***** Class 4, 5, 6 & 7*** eligible for FLEETWOOD Cup Teams event for NZPCA financial Pony Club members.**

Event Conditions:

- Eliminated riders may not continue on cross country and must walk home – The course will remain set up for a month & grounds can be booked after the event.
- Back protectors are compulsory for cross country phases for Level 2 & 3
See Back Protector guide <https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/disciplines/eventing/resources/riders/>
- Approved foot wear must be worn at all times.
- A Neck Strap is recommended for all disciplines and activities.
- In “NZPCA First Start” Level 1 competitions Grass reins are allowed.
- NO Spurs allowed.
- Dressage - Whips may be used but must not exceed 1.00 metre including flapper for ponies and 1.10 metre for hacks.
- Gear check for all classes is required before each phase including obstacles.
- Amendments: The organising committee reserves the right to refuse entries, cancel the event, alter the programme/schedule.
- Riders with more than 2 horses: The organisers will make every effort to ensure that riders have at least 30 minutes between rides. However, if this is not possible owing to the scheduling of classes, the maximum time possible between rides will be allocated.
- Snaffle Bits only for dressage, there is no restriction on the type of bit for jumping, however a snaffle is recommended for first start.
- Helmets: ESNZ approved riding hats, yellow tagged, must be always worn when mounted.
- Non-Competing Horses: All horses and ponies on the grounds must be entered at the event. No non-competing horse will be allowed.
- Assistance can only be given at “NZPCA First Start” Level 1 7.1.1 “NZPCA First Start” Level 1 - On Lead Rein & in Class 3.
 - a) Lead rein to be attached to a halter fitted under the bridle or a cavesson noseband. Lead may not be attached to the bit
 - b) The leader must always be on the inside of the pony when in an enclosed area and by the pony’s shoulder. Never in front of pony.
 - c) The leader must change sides during halt in middle of dressage test
 - d) The leader may only, if necessary, assist in controlling the pony. They must give the rider every encouragement to have control.
 - e) The Leader must not carry a whip.
 - f) The leader must wear appropriate covered foot wear.
- “NZPCA First Start” Level 1 – Off Lead Rein
 - a) An assistant may walk or run beside the rider for moral support in Obstacles/Activities
- No assistance is allowed at “NZPCA First Start” Level 2. (except in Class 3 Assisted)

Falls:

- First fall in any discipline or activity at any level means elimination and the rider must leave the competition course or arena.

Scoring: FIRST START LEVEL 1

NZPCA First Start" Level 1 dressage. Use highest score (good marks). The rider with the highest score will be placed first, the rider with the second highest score will be placed second and so on. As per Dressage NZ scoring

- NZPCA First Start" Level 1- Obstacle Course/ Orienteering/Activities
 - a) 10 points if achieved at first attempt at obstacle or activity
 - b) 5 points if achieved at second attempt at obstacle or activity
 - c) 2 points if achieved at third attempt at obstacle or activity
 - d) Zero points if not achieved after third attempt, rider to move on to next activity
 - e) The rider with the highest score will be placed first, the rider with the second highest score will be placed second and so on
- "NZPCA First Start" Level 1 - Halt Box. Refer to 16.9 and 16.8
 - a) 10 points if immobile for 5 seconds
 - b) 5 points if immobile for 2 seconds
 - c) 2 points if attempt halt and stay in halt box
 - d) Zero points if cannot remain in halt box
 - e) Zero points if do not enter and exit at walk
- NZ First Start Levels 2 will use the conventional scoring system for Eventing with the exception for Level 2 of no time penalties.

Scoring: FIRST START LEVEL 2 & 3

NZ First Start Levels 2 and 3 can use the conventional scoring system for Eventing with the exception of no time penalties.

- "NZPCA First Start" Level 2/3 - Halt Box: conventional eventing scoring system
 - f) 0 faults if immobile for 5 seconds
 - g) 10 faults if attempt halt and stay in halt box, immobile is less than 5 seconds
 - h) 20 faults if cannot remain in halt box

Liability:

- Competitors and spectators attending this event do so at their own risk.
- Waimakariri District Council, Oxford Pony Club or NZPCA Committee nor any representative of these bodies, accepts any liability for any loss, damage, injury or illness to horse/pony/rider, spectators, land, vehicles or any personal property whether caused by their negligence or breach of contract in any way whatsoever.
- Waimakariri District Council, Oxford Pony Club or NZPCA Committee nor any representative of these bodies shall not be liable for the safety of any goods/equipment or the loss of, or damage to such, brought in/stored at the venue, during the event.

Health & Safety:

- Oxford Pony Club is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy event for all participants, and to providing the information, training and supervision needed to achieve this.
- Competitor or Exhibitor must comply with the appropriate Legislation and Health & Safety at Work Act 2015.
- Each Competitor and/or exhibitor must always supervise and control their animals and shall be liable for any hazard created, accident, illness or damage caused by the action of themselves at the venue of the Event.

- All competitors and associated staff/visitors to the venue must abide by the NZPCA Health & Safety Policy's.
- Copies of the event Health & Safety policy can be found at the event office.
- Any incident or near miss must be reported to event office and an incident form completed.
- Any hazards identified must be reported to event office.
- Competitors will always be responsible for their safety and must observe safe practices and follow event rules and officials' instructions at all times, ensuring that others are not put a risk by their actions.
- ESNZ Concussion Policy:
 - a) This event will be run under the ESNZ Concussion Policy Guidelines.
 - b) All riders to report to an official following a fall.
 - c) Medical clearance must be obtained before remounting or competing.

Entry Conditions

- **Individual Entry Payment is to be made via Evo.**
- **Team entries can be paid by direct credit into Oxford Pony Club Bank Account 38-9002-0733559-00**
- If you need help, please contact oxfordponyclubevents@gmail.com we would be happy to help.
- Refund 80% of entry fee will only be paid out on the receipt of a vet/medical certificate, less any administration fee. If you scratch before you have paid, you are still liable to pay the admin fee. Refunds will only be paid if claimed within 10 days of the competition.