



Newmarket Heath Ride

with the kind permission of The Jockey Club Estates and The National Stud

Sunday 30th August 2026

Instructions to Riders

Thurlow Hunt Contact:

Mel Sharp: 07714 263601

Email: pa@lthfamily.co.uk

Directions

The start point is at the Newmarket July Racecourse next to The National Stud. The roundabout at the July Racecourse entrance has a large sculpture of a stallion. **Postcode CB8 0XD or ask for The July Racecourse.**

From the East, take the A14 & the B1506 junction off into Newmarket Town, and follow yellow AA signs to Newmarket Races; from Cambridge & the north, follow the A1303 off the A14; from London & the south, use the M11, taking the A11 turning for Newmarket/Norwich, finally taking the A1304 junction for Six Mile Bottom which leads up to the July Racecourse. On entering the July Racecourse from the roundabout, turn left and follow signs for the PUBLIC CAR PARK.



Start Times

Start times are confirmed within this email chain. Please head to the start just a few minutes before your allocated start time to avoid queuing and congestion around the start area. Our steward will not allow riders to start before their allocated time.

On Arrival

Please consider those around you when parking. Please **report to the Secretary's tent** before your start time to check in, collect your number and show your horse's passport. Flu-vaccinations should be up to date in line with current BEF guidelines. These should be available for presentation on the day. For clarity, the requirements are as follows:

- A complete course of primary vaccinations, the second to be given between 21-92 days of the first and not within 7 days of the event.
- Boosters should be up to date and within the last 12 months.

If you think you might be delayed, please call Mel Sharp on 07714 263601.

The Course

It is **imperative** that all riders abide by the Organiser's rules & conditions, found below. You will be on private Jockey Club & National Stud land and The Jockey Club staff give their time voluntarily to put the course out & tidy the land after our ride.

Please pay attention to the route markers along the course and be respectful of the heathland and the **volunteers** who are stewarding for you.

At the beginning of the course there is a fast & slow route through the National Stud land. Please follow the instructions given on the signs for each route.

Finish

The steward at the finish will take a note of your rider number and give you your rosette for completing the ride. Please be aware that you must be off the heath by 4pm at the very latest. Please clear away any droppings and exit the lorry park before 5pm.

Facilities

There will be portaloos and a catering van onsite in the parking area.

Water for horses and a portaloos will also be available at the rest stop located at the end of the Al Bahathri gallop where the 20 and 15 mile routes re-join.

Local vets & a farrier will be on-call during the day if required, just contact one of the stewards or the emergency number. Please be patient as the vets & farrier must cover a very large area and can be delayed with other riders. You will be responsible for any costs incurred.

Richard Weller-Poley Photography will be taking photos throughout the day.

Thank you for entering the 2025 Newmarket Heath Ride in aid of Racing Welfare and the Thurlow Hunt. We appreciate your support and hope you have a wonderful ride.

Rules and Conditions

By entering you accept and agree to abide by the following:

1. The Entry Fee is non-refundable.
2. You are a competent rider and both you and your horse are fit and well enough to complete the route entered.
3. The Organisers do not accept liability for any accident, loss, damage, injury or illness to horses, owners, riders, ground, spectators or any other person or property.
4. Appropriate footwear & hard hats with fastened chinstraps that comply with BS PAS 015, BS EN 1384 or ASTM F116395 (as per British Horse Society guidelines) must be worn at all times whilst mounted.
5. All riders must wear Body Protectors.
6. All riders are advised to take out accident insurance for themselves and their horse.
7. The Organisers reserve the right to retire any horse or pony that appears to be in any way distressed or unfit.
8. Riders under 14 must always be accompanied by a paying adult.
9. No horses or ponies under 4 years old.
10. Flu-vaccinations should be up to date in line with current BEF guidelines. These should be available for presentation on the day. For clarity, the requirements are as follows:
 - a. A complete course of primary vaccinations, the second to be given between 21-92 days of the first and not within 7 days of the event.
 - b. Boosters should be up to date and within the last 12 months.
11. All horses must have a valid passport which should be available for presentation on the day.
12. All riders **must** keep on the marked route of the ride and always show respect to other riders on the course. When overtaking, please ask other riders before doing so and slow down to an appropriate pace when passing.
13. Any St. John's Ambulance, Blacksmith or Veterinary Fee will be the responsibility of the rider or horse owner.
14. It is forbidden for any rider to walk on the Al Bahathri gallop – please use the grass at the side if you do not wish to gallop (20-mile ride only)
15. It is forbidden to ride on any gallop other than the Al Bahathri.
16. If you bring your mobile, please make sure that you have a safe way of carrying it whilst riding; we cannot help you if you lose it on the Heath.
17. There is one compulsory walking area on the course which must be adhered to - this is clearly signposted.
18. All riders must be off the course by 4pm at the very latest.
19. All vehicles must be out of the carpark by 5pm at the very latest.