



Warm Up Etiquette

Warm-ups are held before the competition, generally for about one hour. You can enter the competition arena and "practice the course".

1. Arrive early, especially if you are new or if you are riding a young horse/pony. This will give you time to familiarise yourself and your horse with the surroundings properly, without large numbers of horses around.
2. The course plan will be posted at the gate of the ring. Learn the course - when doing warm-ups you should follow the course plan. Don't jump anything backwards or out of sequence! The course plan will tell you how many strides there are between related fences.
3. Do take note of the allowed and not allowed equipment - there should be a list on the gate, but you can check this out on our equipment page. If you use "not allowed" equipment in competition you will be given a "no score" (elimination).
4. When there are small numbers of people waiting to warm up you should be able to enter the ring on your own, however, as more people arrive you may be asked to do your warm-up in pairs, or sometimes there could be up to three in the ring at one time. You need to watch carefully what other riders are doing to avoid a collision.
5. If there is a number of people waiting to do a warm-up you will need to get your name put on the whiteboard so that an order can be adhered to. If you arrive late your number one priority should be to make sure your name is on the board at least 15 minutes before the warm-ups are due to close or you could find you miss out, as the event needs to start on time where at all possible. Don't go too far away when your turn is near, you could miss out!
6. Generally at Training events we ask that you pay for your warm-up round with your entries, however if you haven't done this you will need to pay at the gate. Warm-up rounds are \$2 per round.
7. If your horse stops at a fence you can reattempt it, but watch for other riders and give them a clear path first. If your horse has continuous problems it is OK for a helper to come into the ring and put a fence down for you - please make sure the fence is put back to its original height as quickly as possible. It's better that you do this than cutting up the ground in front of the fence by continually stopping.
8. If you are having problems try taking a "lead" from someone else.
9. If you stop at the second fence in a line you can re-jump the whole line if you wish - this will give you a straight approach to the fence.
10. Depending on how experienced your horse is, generally you can do up to two warm-up rounds but don't "hog" the arena & jumps. Have your turn and come out of the ring smartly, particularly if there are a number of people waiting. Remember not to over-jump your horse at this stage - there's a long day ahead of you.
11. If you knock a rail down during warm-ups it is really helpful if you can return to the ring to put it up again for the next person.
12. If you are unsure about anything please feel free to speak to someone on the committee - start with the gatekeeper who should be able to answer your query. If they can't they will direct you to someone else who can help. Don't feel embarrassed - everyone has to start somewhere.