

## ENDURANCE GB - SHUCKBURGH HALL RIDE

23<sup>RD</sup> AND 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2022 – HOME FARM, SHUCKBURGH HALL, NN11 6DT



### EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS:

Vanessa Woodhouse: 07802 300117

Abigail Leach: 07818 880958

Firstly a HUGE thank you for your entry and for supporting this brand new ride on the EGB Calendar – I do hope you are as excited as I am about it.

Please read the following information pack very carefully and I do apologise for the length of this document, BUT it is important that you do read it. It will take you considerably less time to read this than it has taken me to plan and execute this ride and to ensure the safe and successful operation of this event you do need to digest this information.

Most of your questions will be answered in this pack, and / or on the event page on Clubhouse (timings, route maps, bib numbers, etc).

Finally, this ride would not be possible with the gracious support of our sponsors, details are included in this information pack, and our officials and to them I am extremely grateful for their contribution also.

### VENUE:

OS Map: Explorer No's 222 & 206.

Kindly hosted by Sir James and Lady Clare Shuckburgh, the venue is located in three fields at Home Farm, in the grounds of Shuckburgh Hall. The location post code is NN11 6DT. Access is via the driveway up to Park Farm and Home Farm; this is on your left when approaching from Staverton on the A425 PRIOR to the gate house to the main house, or AFTER the gatehouse on the right if approaching from Napton. Signs will be out on the road to mark the driveway and look out for one of our EGB flags at this point also. Take care when exiting onto the road at the end of the day as the corners are a little blind.

Proceed up the driveway taking care as this is a single-track road and drive courteously. You will see a small cottage on the right, and at this point take the right turn towards Home Farm.

Proceed through the gate to the Deer Park, ensuring you fasten this securely behind you. There should be someone at the gate to direct you further and assist with opening and closing this, but this is not guaranteed depending on what time you arrive.

Please try to arrive after 07:30 at the earliest to avoid disruption to the residents and regardless plan to arrive 30 mins before your allocated vetting time. If you are going to be late, do let us know by calling one of the numbers above.

#### **PARKING:**

All vehicles will be parked in the Deer Park (unless corralling and camping overnight, in which case please see instructions below in the relevant section of this information pack). For all single day entries, please continue up past the farm buildings on the left and proceed ahead into the Deer Park and follow instructions from the parking steward as to where to park. Please park courteously and allow sufficient space between vehicles for loading and unloading and attending to horses pre and post ride.

#### **PHOTOGRAPHY:**

IndiePics – images will be available to download from her website after the event. [www.indiepics.co.uk/event-photography/](http://www.indiepics.co.uk/event-photography/). Note: IndiePics have kindly sponsored our prizes and will be giving ALL PERFORMANCE FORMULA WINNERS IN ALL GRADED CLASSES a free download of their choice from the event – thank you Ruth!

#### **CATERING DURING THE DAY:**

Catering is provided by Rumble Tums (<https://www.facebook.com/Rumble-Tums-105991804543788>). Debbie will be serving a selection of hot and cold food, including jacket potatoes with meat vegetable chilli, beans, cheese, coleslaw. Hot and cold baps (bacon, sausage, veggie, etc) and will be serving teas, coffees and soft drinks throughout the day. She will be onsite and ready to feed our volunteers and riders from 08:00/8:30 each day and should still be serving you until around 4:00/4:30pm each day – the more buying the longer she will stay – simple! PLEASE DO SUPPORT this local enterprise as they have given up their downtime to support our event.

#### **IMPORTANT / HEALTH AND SAFETY / GENERAL:**

Dogs must be kept on leads at all times. There are young lambs in the adjacent fields and any straying dogs are a high risk.

No horses to be left tied unsupervised at lorries and trailers.

All corrals must be electrified and corralling tags should be fixed to the corral and a tag on the horses headcollar please with contact details attached.

Please follow the markers on course and study your map and your riders instructions below. Take care when riding through wooded areas and be aware of tree roots and overhead branches. There may also be ditches along hedge lines and roadside verges, as well as utilities covers and manholes in some of the verges along roadsides near the villages.

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE to other users of tracks and lanes whilst riding, crewing and in vehicles. You may pass other horse riders, walkers, cyclists, dogs, children and there will be cows and sheep with new-born lambs in some of the fields. On the permissive by-ways you may also meet trail riders on motorised bikes. Signs will be out to warn them of the ride, but we cannot stop local riders from using the routes they frequent.

IF YOU ARE WITHDRAWING ON THE DAY – you MUST inform us please.

**WC:**

Portaloos are available on site – two in the main event field by the secretaries tent and one in the parking area. Hand sanitiser shall be provided.

**WATER:**

There is a tap available at the very top of the venue field by the wood (see venue map) which should only be used to refill water cannisters for those who are staying overnight and / or those in classes 1-4 using the vet gate. It is likely a car would be required to carry water to corrals and to the vet gate from this tap as this is at the top of a hill – unless you are superhuman.

All other riders are required to bring sufficient water for the event. In the event of extreme temperatures and a need to refill buckets and cannisters, please be aware our horses in classes 1 – 4 take priority on the day and there is only one tap!

## **NEW TO ENDURANCE? FIRST PLEASURE OR GRADED RIDE? READ THIS!!!!**

If this is your first ride, please take a look at the following pages on EGB's website for further guidance on what to wear, bring to the ride and how the EGB Rider Etiquette works. (<https://egb.myclubhouse.co.uk/Cms/Spaces/JOINING/Getting+Started+with+EGB> and look at the file "Taking Part in Endurance")

In brief:

### **Pre-riding:**

1. Arrive a good 30 mins before your allocated vet time. If you are running late ring the Ride Organiser on the emergency number and advise when you expect to arrive and DO NOT PANIC
2. When you arrive at the venue go to the ride secretary before unloading your horse and collect your bib, vet sheet and wrist bands – one goes on the horses saddle and one around your wrist (in case you part company for any reason)
3. Pop your bib on when you are handling your horse and presenting to the farrier vet and riding please.
4. Complete the vet sheet with the required details – class number, distance, horse and rider details.
5. GRADED RIDERS MUST BRING A MASTERCARD FOR THEIR HORSE – If you have not been issued with one yet, then this may be available to collect from the secretary on the day – this also needs to be filled in with class number, name of ride and date. A Mastercard is NOT required for Pleasure Riders.
6. Bring your vet sheet to the farrier first with a naked horse. He will check your horses' feet and shoes, then you head to the vet
7. Check in with the vet steward and they will take your completed vet sheet – you get this back at the end of the ride
8. The vet will check the horse over, take a heart rate (for graded rides only) and then ask you to trot the horse up around a cone and back to the vet – trot in as straight a line as possible and on a loose lead rein
9. The vet will confirm whether you are fit to ride – then you may tack up and set off.

### **The ride:**

1. Present to the start within 30 mins after you have vetted – you can present earlier if you are ready and no later than the time allocated to you in the timings sheet (unless you have arrived late – we will be as flexible as we can be). Then off you go!
2. Wear comfy breathable clothing
3. You can use normal tack!
4. Make sure you bring plenty of water to wash off your horse and hydrate them both during (with crew) and after the ride – see notes about water at the venue above.
5. If you have someone crewing, give them some bottles of water and a bucket with a lid with drinking water in for your horse. Milk cartons or washed out fabric softener bottles make excellent slosh bottles. Try sloshing at home first from in the saddle, down the horses neck and back legs and avoid the kidneys
6. Provide your crew with some snacks and a map and make sure you both carry charged phones
7. Carry the route map! Either in a map pocket or folded in your pocket – do not rely solely on route markings – all riders are required to carry a map

8. Download What Three Words in case there is an incident and you need to ring the emergency number – maybe put the numbers into your phone ready just in case
9. Ride with courtesy and respect for other riders on course. If you want to pass a horse in front call out to them that you are behind and ask if you can pass, and pass with care. **NO ZOOMING UP BEHIND HOORAYING PLEASE!**
10. If someone wants to pass you find a safe place to pull to the side and if you have a very nervous horse, or they are new to the sport, pop a green ribbon in their tail. A kicker **MUST** have a red ribbon in their tail please. Please be observant of this for others on route.
11. When on course look out for the checkpoints – make sure the radio operator at the checkpoint has noted your number and please take some time to thank our volunteers on the course holding open gates or pointing you in the right direction
12. When you come to the end of the route, head to the finish and the timekeeper will tell you the time you completed. Set a timer on your phone. You need to re-present to the vet within 30 mins (and no later) when you complete the ride. I set a 20 min timer at that point to allow time to walk back over the vet from the parking.
13. **Please pay attention to the time spent out on your ride.** Whilst pleasure riders no longer have a mandated minimum speed, our timings assume that most riders will complete within 8Kmh average pace, so the 17km PR should take about 2hour and 5 mins. You should also not complete a pleasure ride any faster than 12kmh – so the fastest you can complete the 17Km class is 1hr 25 mins. (See the speed tables in a separate document)

#### **Post-Ride:**

1. Strip off all tack and cool of your horse, you want them to recover safely and lower their heart rate through re-hydration, walking them off, washing them off, etc – be careful of over-cooling as a shivering horse will naturally have an elevated heart rate.
2. Offer them plenty to drink and maybe a mash to encourage taking on fluids but do not them eat too much – a bit of grass is good to get the guts working well again, and relax them after the ride, but eating just before vetting can also elevate the heart rate. You should be able to judge this yourself and most importantly you want them relaxed for the vet
3. Remember – for a graded ride, to achieve a higher grade, you need a low heart rate and a good speed for the course.
4. Return straight to the vet steward when you are ready to re-present and then the vet will undertake the same checks as previously. Pleasure riders do not have heart rates taken so can present more swiftly but horses do need to be attended to as above first.
5. Collect your mastercard, rosette and vet sheets later on when you return your number bib
6. Please complete the ride feedback form when emailed to you by the EGB office – we cannot learn about the success or otherwise of our rides without this information completed.

## **CORRALING:**

The corralling field is located between the main venue parking area and the event field (where start / finish, ride secretary etc are located). The corralling area is most likely to be on your left as you enter the field – on Friday I shall re-assess the degree of grazing and pop a sign up for you as to where to corral. At the top of the field there is a public footpath running alongside the wood, so this is probably the least likely spot to be used now.

If corralling and camping in your lorry or trailer, you may bring your vehicle into this field and park up in front of or alongside your corral. As the gate you will have driven through is Deer Proof this shall be shut tight at night and access through to the horses will be limited at best. You will be closer to the event field for access to the toilets also but do note the position of the tap in the event field, and ensure you collect your water for overnight requirements prior to the gates being secured to the event field in the evenings.

Please ensure you collect your corralling tag from the Ride Secretary on arrival to display on your corral and that your corral is secure, electrified and has two tapes to contain horses.

If arriving late on the Friday or Saturday please let the Ride Organiser know on 07802 300117 and clear instructions will be provided over the phone. The RO will be at the venue until 7:00pm (latest) Friday and 6:00 PM Saturday and is only 20 mins away in the case of an emergency overnight or to meet you if arriving VERY late – just keep in contact please.

Please allow sufficient space between corrals to avoid incidents with other horses, and leave your corral after the ride poo picked and tidy please. There will be an allocated skip or other such vessel near the corrals for your horses dung to be placed in.

Camping in tents in the corralling field is strictly forbidden for health and safety purposes, as is horses sharing a corral.

## **CAMPING:**

Those camping in a tent must camp in the event field. Please pick a suitable spot as noted on the venue plan behind where the food Van will be situated or you may choose to park down the field below the Raynet area, but you must ensure that your tent is not anywhere near the start / finish or vetting areas. Access into the Corral field overnight is possible but note the gate will be shut and is rather tight to open.

## **FOOD OPTIONS FOR CAMPERS:**

**It is a requirement to have someone on site all the time when corralling horses.** There are approx. 11 people camping on both nights, so if you all pal up, then it is going to be feasible for people to go out and collect food / eat out – it's a great way to meet new friends. Just take care to ensure that gates are firmly latched shut if leaving the venue, that your horse is supervised and that you respect the neighbours and residents at the hall.

Shuckburgh Hall is located halfway between Southam and Daventry and there are plenty of food options available.

In Hellidon there is the Red Lion public house (01327 261200 - <https://redlionathellidon.co.uk/>) and they have been approached to provide take away options to our overnigheters. At the time of writing this has not been confirmed, but please check the information board at the secretary's tent for further

details of this facility. You are strongly recommended to book a table if planning to eat in the restaurant.

Staverton Village there is the Countryman Inn (01327 311815 - booking advisable).

Kings Head Napton (booking strongly advisable) - 01926 812202

A good selection of pubs and take aways are available in Southam and Daventry

### **TOP SPEC (WEIGHBRIDGE AND FEED ADVICE)**

Top Spec will be present on Saturday from 10:00 and will be able to provide riders with feed advice and can weigh horses. For those interested in a pre-ride weight, you will need to allow plenty of time for this before you vet, as Laura Cooper will need to take all your details and complete the forms with you prior to popping your horse on the weighbridge (for insurance purposes). This would be extremely useful for you to see how horses lose weight during a ride. She will be happy to re-weigh after your ride and then you can discuss nutrition.

Top Spec provide a range of products specifically aimed at Endurance Horses, so do please discuss these with Laura. She will be located near the entrance to the Parking field.

### **PRIZES and POST RIDE AWARDS**

EGB have introduced for 2022 the use of performance formula in many of its classes – this makes it far more competitive than it may have been previously and is a good introduction to people on the competitive side of EGB. All graded rides will be awarded placings down to 3<sup>rd</sup> place based on performance formula calculations. We are providing prizes and PF ride certificates along with tokens (for 1<sup>st</sup> placed combinations) for discounted entry off future EGB events or other products from the EGB shop. Prizes and certificates with your results will be available for collection from the TS and Ride Organiser after classes close and full results are compiled. The results for all classes will be published online after the event.

We understand if you cannot wait for this to occur and we will endeavour to be as quick as we can getting the results finalised to conclude the placings and award the prizes. However, please note that any trophies and prizes will NOT be posted out to riders. Only certificates and any prizes in voucher or token form can be posted, so we strongly urge you to stay, especially if you have a grade 1 upon completion as you stand an extremely good chance of winning something great!

For more details on just some of the prizes available and for more information about our sponsors please see details further on.

**COVID GUIDANCE** – the following are the key points from EGB policy for the date of the ride:

Face masks are no longer mandatory but it is recommended for people to wear them particularly in enclosed/crowded spaces where they have contact with people that they do not normally meet.

Attendees must not come to the event if they or anyone in their household currently have any symptoms of Covid-19, or if they are currently subject to a period of self-isolation in line with Government recommendations (for example following a positive Covid test).

Close contacts should be avoided as much as possible. We do have immunosuppressed and vulnerable people at our rides and people need to be respectful of each other's space

Cleaning regimes for high touch points and regular hand sanitising/washing will be in place

**ROUTE INFORMATION – ALL ROUTES PLEASE READ GENERAL INFO AND FOR CLASSES 1-4  
MOST OF THESE ROUTES ARE BEING USED ON YOUR RIDES!**

Please check at the secretaries tent for any last minute route changes or other relevant information prior to the ride when collecting your number bib and wristbands.

All riders **MUST CARRY** their route map, which should be printed off at home prior to the ride. If anyone is unable to print their map then please contact the ride organiser and we will do this for you – but we will not generally give out maps to riders on the day.

Routes will be marked with orange chalk spray arrows on the ground or yellow flags in the ground, or orange ribbons on trees / hedges. Marking should be sufficient and will always be on the left side. In Warwickshire, marking will be on the grass / not directly on the highway where there are road sections; in Northants the marking is slightly easier but do keep a sharp eye out!

Directional changes will be marked twice – one arrow to show the change is coming up and one where the change will take place. If you have not seen a route mark for a while, check your map and retrace your steps. Remember, we have to use a water-soluble paint and in the event of poor weather either on the day of the ride or in the three days leading up to the ride, paint may deteriorate or wash away. Please report any obviously missing marking or marking issues to the ride organiser by phone ASAP (or to a checkpoint) so these can be corrected for other riders on course during the event.

There will be additional signage where routes split and there are some mandatory walk sections along some of the routes which **MUST** be adhered to please. These will be signed.

ALL ROUTES AND KEY HAZARDS TO EXPECT:

DO NOT RIDE ON CROPS OR ON ANY CUT / MANICURED VERGES BY PROPERTIES ANYWHERE ALONG THE ROUTE PLEASE. We do not want to annoy our local residents and give EGB and this event a bad reputation. Please also ensure you follow all signage as you proceed around the route.

Key Hazards to note out on course – see specific route information for your class below:

- You may meet trail riders on the gated road and permissive by-way from CP4 to CP1.
- There are cattle in some of the fields and sheep with young lambs in many of the fields
- On the roadside verges heading up from Upper Catesby to Staverton there are manholes / utility services covers in the grass verge which may not all be identified with spray marking.
- There will be some tree routes through the wooded sections at Hellidon
- There is a stream to cross as you head into the wooded section at Priors Marston en route to Napton.
- There is a bridge to cross after CP2 (with sides)
- There is a harrowed and seeded field after CP2 which if weather has been inclement the route marking may have washed away / the going could get a little deep (it is currently very firm)
- There are some sections of the route where we have not been able to avoid stony tracks – the sections are very short, there is a grass verge to ride along and for barefooted horses only, riding just inside the edge of a crop is permitted but do not abuse this privilege and avoid trampling the crops please
- There are roads to cross – the crossing at Lower Shuckburgh will be manned and please follow stewards instructions and trot across the staggered junction out of the way as soon as possible

- There is a risk of badger holes on the set asides up near Berryfields. These will be marked where they have been sighted, so do watch out for them

### **ALL ROUTES:**

After leaving the venue and entering the track you will proceed up the hill to Park Farm. When you enter the field by Park Farm and on to the bridleway, all the gates along this section until you join the track bearing East to Lower Catesby will be unlatched such that you can simply push them or pull them open and let them swing shut behind you. They may have baler twine on to loosely loop over the gate posts to retain the gate in place and prevent the sheep from getting mixed up. Some of them may already be tied open. Do not latch these gates shut please.

Upon arriving at Lower Catesby prior to CP1 and before the route diverges up to CP2 and down to CP5 and CP6, there is a mandatory walk section through a field with Highland Cattle in it. They should stay away from horse riders but do please be aware they are there. The mandatory walk is all the way through this property and there will be NO SPRAY MARKING on this section at all and also no flags in the field as they would be a hazard to the Cattle. Continue straight up the hill and look for the sign on the top gate to mark the exit from this section. Gates in this section are easily workable from your horse, and there will be no stewards present – please ensure gates are left as they are found (and here this is as a minimum the entrance into the paddock and out of the paddock being shut).

You will then proceed down a gravel driveway towards CP1 – a sign will denote where the mandatory walk section ends.

**See relevant instructions below for each class**

**Classes 1 (Sat), 2(Sun), 3 (Sat) 4 (Sun), 9, 10, 11, 12, 19, 20, 21, 22**

Please follow instructions above for “after leaving the venue”

When proceeding into Hellidon the spray marking will stop where the properties begin and marking will instead be undertaken with the Yellow Flags on the ground or orange ribbon. There may be locals pointing out route direction to you also. Where the route splits, those on the 17km route will proceed to the right around the West side of the village towards CP6 and Hellidon Lakes Golf Complex and the rest will proceed left to the East side of the Village and out past the Red Lion Pub.

When proceeding to CP5 please note the direction change to cross the stream at the safest point. Do not follow the fence line blindly alongside the disused railway entirely or you will eventually come to a wooden footbridge and a deep ditch to traverse which is NOT suitable for horses. There will be a series of arrows marking the directional change which is shortly after the gate coming out of the wooded area.

(Class 12 and 22) - 17Km Route:

Refer to the section ALL ROUTES above, and once you arrive at CP1 please bear right and head towards CP6. This section of the route is marked with yellow flags and orange ribbons on the LHS of the road and there may be a few villagers out pointing to where you need to go. You will proceed past Hellidon Golf Course, reach CP6 and then please follow directional arrows across to Priors Marston. Note the likely route change on the map shown in green to avoid the horses along the bridleway – it is looking more likely that the route will proceed this way.

Please take care when riding through Priors Marston. This is a quiet village but you do cross onto a road for a short distance before turning left off up towards Napton. There will be no stewards at this point.

You will cross a small stream as you enter the wooded section at Eve Wood and there is a footbridge to the side here – access is narrow but the gate will be open and a steward will be on hand. Please note this section of the course is also NOT marked. You cannot get lost! Stay on the bridleway, head straight on and as you exit the wood into the field proceed down to the gate directly in front at the bottom of the hill – there will be an orange arrow the other side of the gate again and the rest of the route IS marked.

All gates to Napton are excellent horse gates and open either way easily.

When you get to checkpoint 4 take the left track back to the venue and the finish

(Class 11 and 21) 22Km Route:

Refer to the section ALL ROUTES above, and once you arrive at CP1 please bear left and head towards CP5.

When you leave CP5 and proceed back towards Hellidon you will turn right up towards CP6. It is currently intended that you do not follow the sign for CP6, and instead bear left and take the marked track towards Priors Marston. However, we currently have a strong likelihood that this section will be unrideable due to horses on the bridleway that may not be moved for the event. In this instance the route will in fact be diverted via CP6, partly around the golf course and then diverted off left back towards Priors Marston down a private track. Signage will instruct you on the day as to the route to be taken here and the direction towards CP4.

Please take care when riding through Priors Marston. This is a quiet village but you do cross onto a road for a short distance before turning left off up towards Napton. There will be no stewards at this point.

You will cross a small stream as you enter the wooded section at Eve Wood and there is a footbridge to the side here – access is narrow but the gate will be open and a steward will be on hand. Please note this section of the course is NOT marked. You cannot get lost! Stay on the bridleway, head straight on and as you exit the wood into the field proceed down to the gate directly in front at the bottom of the hill – there will be an orange arrow the other side of the gate again and the rest of the route IS marked.

All gates to Napton are excellent horse gates and open either way easily.

When you get to checkpoint 4 take the left track back to the venue and the finish.

(Class 9,10, 19 and 20) 26Km Route.

As per the above for the 20 Km route, but when you leave CP5 and proceed back towards Hellidon you will turn right up towards CP6. Once at CP6 you will proceed around the Golf Course to head back towards CP5 again – do not follow any tracks to the left marked for the other routes if the diversion to avoid the horses has been put in place on this first loop. Note the track may be diverted immediately down the hedge-line to avoid riding alongside the driveway and private property so please pay attention for this – it will be marked. There will be signs out to show you where to go. Once you proceed through CP5 again, please see the route instructions above for the 20Km class.

(Class 1) – Sat – 42K

Follow the instructions for the 26Km route. When you reach CP4 take the right fork marked CP1. Note this is where there is a possibility of Trail Riders on the course. Signs will be out to warn them horses are on the route.

Then head to CP6, and then depending on the horse situation as noted for the 20 km the route will in fact be diverted partly around the golf course and then diverted off left back towards Priors Marston down a private track. Signage will instruct you on the day as to the route to be taken here and the direction towards CP4, then to the finish for the overnight hold.

Class 2 (Sunday) – no entries so no route instructions

Class 3 (Saturday)

*Please follow the instructions for the 40Km class below for the first part of the route prior to the first VG hold in the venue*

After being released from the Vet Gate hold, please proceed to CP1 as noted above.

Please follow the instructions for the 20KM route and return to the venue for the second Vet Gate hold.

Then proceed after the stated hold time and follow the 17Km route detailed above.

**Classes 1 (Sunday), 3, 4, 5,6,7,8, 15,16,17,18**

Please follow instructions above for “after leaving the venue”

When you arrive at CPT1 turn immediately left and head up the gated road towards Upper Catesby. This is a gated road but all gates will be tied open. If any have been closed, please let the RO know ASAP so we can resolve the problem!

Take care on the road up to Staverton. Whilst it is relatively quiet at the weekend, signage will be out and there are verges to ride on, there are some blind bends to negotiate. Note, there is also a mandatory walk section on the route past Catesby Equestrian (who are also one of our prize sponsors!) – they have a small event at the site on the Saturday and we have been asked to walk past to avoid causing disruption. The walk section will be marked with signs / spray and please do follow the instructions. If there is no one in the school on the Sunday you may proceed in trot.

All being well the crossing at Staverton will be manned on both days, but if not, again take care and ride courteously through the village.

On the bridleway down towards Berryfields Farm you may encounter dog walkers, runners, and mountain bike riders.

Where the route turns right, pay attention to the sign telling you which direction to head in depending on the distance you are riding as there are some repeated loops at this part of the course, and also two different loops depending in the distance being ridden – see overleaf.

Specifics at route divergence:

- Class 1 (80 K Sunday) – Take the right turn off the bridleway and at the gap in the hedge where the sign shall be placed showing the route divergence, ride two “grey loops” (straight on) and two

green loops (veer left and up the steep hill) – you can do this in any order you prefer as long as you pass through CP2 4 times before proceeding to CP3.

- Classes 3, 5, 6, 15, 16 (41km) – Take the right turn and at the gap in the hedge, where the sign shall be placed showing the route divergence take the “Green” shorter route to CP2, then proceed to CP3.
- Classes 4, 7, 8, 17, 18 (32km) Take the right turn and at the gap in the hedge, where the sign shall be placed showing the route divergence, ride one “grey loop” (straight on) and one green loop (veer left and up the steep hill) – you can do this in any order you prefer as long as you pass through CP2 2 times before proceeding to CP3.

After leaving CPT 2 you will head down to a sturdy wooden bridge, with a gate at the end which should be propped open. This gate has no latch and can easily be pushed open if needed. Following the route slight up the hill and then it forks right across the harrowed and seeded field towards Wolfhamcote. Try to stick to the tyre marks for more consistent going – note the route then meanders along the set aside after you proceed through the hedge into the next field rather than being a straight line as shown on the maps.

At the end of this section you will pass under the disused railway line arch and through two gates which should be open. In the event the gate into the field alongside the church is shut, this is a very accessible horse gate and can easily be opened from horseback.

There will be a steward in Wolfhamcote on the gated road section. It is feasible to crew here but note that your crew have a fairly long drive along a gated road to get to you.

Once you cross the canal bridge, there is another gate which can be operated from horseback easily and all other gates along this section to Sawbridge shall be tied open.

After passing through checkpoint 3 the route proceeds down a fairly stony track to Flecknoe Village. It is along this track that barefooted horses may ride just inside the crop to avoid sole damage, but there is sadly a short section at the start with no grass – however this really is a very short section. All riders are able to ride on grass verges of course, but I understand this is rather narrow. Please do not ride across any of the crops.

Once you proceed out of Flecknoe, you are on a narrow set aside in the first field, take care.

There are two gates to navigate after you have crossed the canal bridge into a field with sheep and lambs present. They are operable from a horse, but do not have horse handles. We have a steward in the final field to de-risk straying sheep at the last of the gates on the ride.

Take care crossing the A425 over the staggered junction and follow the steward’s directions. Once you arrive at CP4, please take the left turn back to the venue.

#### **DISTANCE AND TIMING TABLE:**

**See separate document**

#### **GATE ALLOWANCE:**

A gate allowance is likely to apply to all of the routes as it has not been possible to secure enough volunteers to cover every gate on 80km of route! If this has frustrated you, we can only apologise and

hopefully this will encourage you to volunteer at rides to help other riders avoid your frustrations. What we CAN ASSURE you about is that all gates that are not manned have been checked over the Easter Weekend and are freely moving, clear of obstruction and easy to open from an obedient horse. Many are horse gates that open each way, and most have horse handles so they really should not add a big delay to your rides. If you do however come across a particularly difficult gate do let the next checkpoint know and we will go and attend to it accordingly to assist other riders.

The relevant gate allowance for each class will be determined by the TS on the day of the ride and will be displayed on the information board at the secretary's tent

#### **MANDATORY WALK SECTIONS – TIMING ALLOWANCE**

As noted above, there are two sections where all riders MUST WALK where stated. Approx 1 KM as you enter Lower Catesby towards CP1 and along the road to Staverton heading towards CP2 (about 200M). Any speed / timing allowance for these distances will be determined by the TS on the day of the ride and displayed on the information board by the secretary's tent.

#### **VET GATE TIMINGS AND APPROACH FOR CLASSES 1-4**

Hold times for the 80K and 64K one day classes will be set by the TS on the day and will be shown on the information board at the secretary's tent.

There will be two holds for the 80Km class 3 - I anticipate a 40 and 30 min hold for this class

One hold for the 64K class 4 – I anticipate a 40 min hold for this class

And an overnight hold for Class 1

## CREWING:

Suggest you print this page and give to your crew along with your route map / all routes map showing crew point numbers!

Crewing points are very limited – see below – and care must be taken at roadsides. Please ensure if using crew that you collect a crew card from the Ride Secretary and have this displayed in the crewing vehicle. There is to be no crewing at checkpoints.

NO CREWING IN VILLAGES OR LARGE VEHICLES. A SMALL box (eg 3.5T max) could at a push be used at Crew points 1,2,4, and 7 only but you are urged to use only a car wherever possible or try to share crew.

Where crewing at a roadside, please be courteous to other road users and do not obstruct the road. At Crew Point 3 on the section marked near Napton, this is a single-track road with passing places, but with excellent visibility. The passing places make useful crewing areas but be mindful to leave space for traffic to pass and do not occupy all the space with multiple vehicles – in other words use this section sensibly to support your riders.

The crewing points shown are approximately at the following WhatThreeWords coordinates (see ALL ROUTES MAP under separate download):

Crew Point 1 (Hellidon)	violin.verdict.nanny
Crew Point 2 (Hellidon)	brain.cubic.spiking
Crew point 3 (Napton)	tamed.nooks.sizes
Crew Point 4 (Staverton)	arming.boost.consoles

*(Please ask crew to do their best to remove / wash away droppings from this spot as this is a business forecourt!)*

Crew Point 5 (Wolfhamcote)	part.whirlpool.retain
Crew Point 6 (Sawbridge)	nods.matchbox.gross
Crew Point 7 (Lower Shuckburgh)	occupations.musician.brie

**OUR SPONSORS AND PRIZES AVAILABLE / DONATED etc – more prizes to be confirmed at the weekend!**

<b>Business</b>	<b>WebSite / Facebook Pages</b>	<b>Prize / Sponsorship</b>
Sophie Sperling	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=sperling%20saddles%20limited">https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=sperling%20saddles%20limited</a> Sperling Saddles – Saddle fitting services	Sponsoring the farrier
Hands 4 Horses - and Hands 4 Horses Scotland (Andy Simpson)	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Hands-4-Horses-457356271470682">https://www.facebook.com/Hands-4-Horses-457356271470682</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=hands4horses%20scotland">https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=hands4horses%20scotland</a> (Fully qualified and insured equine practitioner offering sports and rehabilitation therapies)	£50 1 <sup>st</sup> Place £25 2 <sup>nd</sup> Place
Performance Equestrian	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/PerformanceEquestrian">https://www.facebook.com/PerformanceEquestrian</a> Specialist suppliers and manufacturers of riding tack and clothing for TREC, Endurance and Trail Riding	Set of washable Reins 4 pairs of gloves
IndiePics	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=indiepics%20photography">https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=indiepics%20photography</a> Event photography and this ride's photographer for the weekend	Fee social media download to all 1 <sup>st</sup> placed GER winners
Kingsthorpe Golf Club	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=kingsthorpe%20golf%20club">https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=kingsthorpe%20golf%20club</a> <a href="http://www.kingsthorpe-golf.co.uk/">http://www.kingsthorpe-golf.co.uk/</a>	Voucher for a free four ball A 1 hour private golf lesson
Lizzy Farmer	Tellus-Mater@hotmail.com	A private foraging voucher for 2 people around Charlwelton area
Team Anna Endurance	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/teamaendurance/about/?ref=page_internal">https://www.facebook.com/teamaendurance/about/?ref=page_internal</a> We are a small family set up that has been in the sport for over 20 years, currently with one international horse and one novice horse in training.	8 x vouchers for 1 <sup>st</sup> placed riders in classes of 40 and 32km
Jess Moody at Ashtree Sport Horses	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/Ashtreesporthorses/">https://www.facebook.com/Ashtreesporthorses/</a> Ashtree Sport horses based in Daventry train and produce horses, and Jess competes at Affiliated Eventing. She hosts training sessions and polework clinics suitable for Endurance Horses as well as eventers and show jumpers	Polework clinic (date to be confirmed) for all 2-3 placed riders in all Graded Rides
Catesby Equestrian	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/catesbyequestrian">https://www.facebook.com/catesbyequestrian</a> Arena Hire in Catesby	4 x 1 hour School Hire Vouchers
DMA Horse Transport (Dave Annetts)	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/dmahorsetransport">https://www.facebook.com/dmahorsetransport</a> Horse Transportation Services	Sponsorship towards EGB tokens to placed riders
Tommie Harris	Rugby Farrier	Sponsorship towards EGB tokens to placed riders