

# SAFETY CODE

## Mid Surrey Farmers Draghounds

### CONDITIONS APPLYING TO ALL THOSE WHO HUNT WITH THE MSFD

#### General

Draghunting is a high risk sport. From time to time it is inevitable that accidents will happen, whether or not it is the fault of the rider or of any of those otherwise concerned, including ourselves.

For this reason we make it a condition that anyone coming out with us must have read carefully and must observe the safety requirements which follow.

#### Insurance Requirements

##### It is Mandatory that:

1. You insure yourself whilst draghunting against all risks including any claims which may be made against you arising out of your participation in the day's hunting, from injury, loss or damage caused to any rider or third party sustained in the course of or as a result of draghunting however or by whomsoever.
2. You insure yourself and your horse against all risks including injury, loss or damage sustained in the course of or as a result of draghunting however or by whomsoever caused, including ourselves and whether or not anyone is to blame.

##### We draw to your attention that:

It is mandatory to become a member of The Countryside Alliance (Tel: 0207-840-9200). Through such membership you will obtain insurance cover of £5 million public liability, and personal accident and disability cover of £30,000. You are required to have further personal medical insurance and additional accident and disability cover; this cover can be obtained from the N.F.U. Also check with your own household personal policy for additional topping up.

#### Safety Requirements

1. The requirements that follow are intended to minimise the risk to those involved and are given in the best interests of the rider.
2. It is important that you realise that the type of Line which we are now riding is suitable only for experienced riders and experienced horses. Accordingly, if you wish to bring out a horse of limited experience, you should not do so unless you have had a discussion with one of the Masters who is responsible for the day in order to find out if the Line is suitable for your horse.
3. **HEADGEAR**  
FOR BOTH THOSE HUNTING WITH THE MSFD AND ANY MOUNTED ASSISTANTS WHENEVER RIDING IN THE COURSE OF THEIR DUTIES WITH THE HUNT. The headgear which is recommended is a skull cap or riding cap manufactured to the present day approved B.S.I; after a fall any headgear should be fully checked that it is in no way damaged.
4. **JUMPING**  
Whenever possible spread out at a fence and never ride immediately behind the horse in front. Always ride straight at a fence. Horses ridden at an angle may cross the path of others and put them at risk.  
If your horse attempts to refuse or refuses, do your best to keep him going on a straight line, do not run down the fence.  
When a horse in front of you has fallen, you must jump the fence at a safe distance away from the faller. Always jump between the markers. Do not jump when you cannot see a marker.
5. **LOOSE HORSES**  
These must be caught at the earliest possible moment. If necessary the field must stop to enable this to be done: there is a collective responsibility of the field to catch loose horses.
6. **GATES**  
All gates must be shut. If you go through a gate, either shut it or ensure that somebody behind you will do so.

- 7. **KEEPING TO THE LINE**  
The direction of the line has been carefully worked out with the Farmer beforehand. If by any chance you get left behind, follow either the path of the Line or go back the way you have come. Do **NOT** take a Line of your own.
- 8. **DAMAGE**  
If you cause serious damage to any fence or break a rail, you must inform one of the Masters (preferably the Master responsible for the day's dragging) immediately.
- 9. **HORSEBOXES**  
Drivers of these are please requested to ensure that the highway is at all times kept clear. There have at times been complaints as a result of boxes following the hounds along the roads and stopping at each check. This has caused considerable obstruction and is a practice which must not continue.
- 10. **MINORS (under 18 years)**  
All children must wear, when out drag hunting, protective hats and back protectors, as required by the Pony Club. No minor to come out unless his / her guardian has read the Safety Code to the minor and signed it on the minor's behalf. The minor must be a Member of The Countryside Alliance to comply with the above.

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**Mid Surrey Farmers Draghounds**

**CONDITIONS APPLYING TO ALL THOSE WHO HUNT WITH THE MSFD**

**CONFIRMATION**

I confirm on my own behalf and on the behalf of any representative riding on my behalf as follows:

That I recognise that drag hunting is a high risk sport and that whilst the MSFDH through its officials will endeavour to reduce the risks for those drag hunting, it cannot always guarantee that its risk reduction system will have been fully complied with or that some human error on its part will not occur.

That I and my representative have read the conditions of hunting with the MSFDH.

That neither I nor my representative will hold any of the officials of the MSFDH or the Farmers/landowners over whose land we hunt or are given access across, liable for any personal injury, loss or damage which either of us may sustain arising from hunting with the MSFDH however caused and whether or not caused by the fault of either any hunt official or some other person.

I HAVE READ THESE CONDITIONS AND FULLY UNDERSTAND AND WILL COMPLY WITH THEM.

State your current Countryside Alliance Membership Number .....

SIGNED: .....

FULL NAME IN CAPITALS: .....

DATE: .....

**RIDERS COPY TO BE RETAINED**

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SIGNED:.....

FULL NAME(S) IN CAPITALS: .....

DATE: .....

**No riders will be allowed to ride unless this form is signed and returned with your subscription and in the case of family membership by both members. If you have completed forms in previous years please just return the subscription form. However we do ask that you read through the form for any updates.**