

National Gear Rules January 2025 Edition

Effective 1st January 2025

Issued December 2024

This summary sheet should be consulted by anyone using the JANUARY 2025 edition of the PCA National Gear Rules, which apply to all Pony Club members throughout Australia when training (e.g. rallies, musters, camps) and competing.

It clarifies some rules, and lists some new approved equipment.


The DECEMBER 2024 edition will be implemented from 1st January 2025 and will contain these addendum updates. The National Gear Rules 2025 January edition, plus this latest addendum, can also be found on the [PCA website](https://ponyclubaustralia.com.au/sports/national-gear-rules/) under ‘Sports’.


<https://ponyclubaustralia.com.au/sports/national-gear-rules/>

These changes are also highlighted in **red** in the January 2025 PCA National Gear Rules edition.

GEAR RULE CHANGES

NAME	PAGE	CHANGE
2.08.1 Bridle- types	P23 Bitless bridle/ Bosal	Add Rope not permitted on Bosal bridles
2.08.1 Bridle types	P23	Add It is mandatory, when mounted, to have a bridle (bitted or bitless). Riding in halters or neck straps alone not permitted.
2.05 Boots- horses	P22 P72	Change Pinch boots, non-stretch boots usually made of leather or hard plastic, without stretch and/or elasticity not allowed. Brush boots with or without elasticity allowed for Group A, B, D, E, F (Sporting only), G and I. Brush boots are often made of neoprene. Image of pinch boot added to page 73
2.09 Calming Hoods	P24	Removed and merged with 2.10.2 Compression Hoods
2.17 Leading Rein	P28	Wording Update Riders who need to be led/ leading rein riders, there are two options: 1. If you are using a lead rope, it must be attached to a

		<p>halter worn under the bridle. The bridle should not have a noseband.</p> <p>2. If you are using a butterfly lead it should be attached to both bit rings under the rider's reins. (see diagram)</p> <p>For leading rein classes, a butterfly lead (below) or race clip should be used.</p> <p>When led, riders must still have their own reins.</p>
2.23 Saddles	P35 Pony Pads	<p>Added Pony pad and Inky Dinky style of saddle permitted. Inky Dinky Saddle image added.</p> 
2.23 Saddles	P35 Types of Saddles/ Western Saddles with horns	<p>Change Western Saddles with horns permitted to be used at rally days and in Group A, C, E, F, G, and I.</p> <p>Saddle not be allowed to used in any jumping activity over 30cm.</p> <p>Clothing (shirts) must also be tucked in so as not to get caught on the horn.</p>
2.23 Saddles	P36 Racing Saddles	<p>Change Racing saddles not allowed.</p> <p>Track pads can be used for Ride to Time and approved Pony Racing. Safety stirrups must be used.</p> <p>Pony Race participants who have attended and been approved at a Jump Start weekend can ride in a track pad for Pony Racing.</p>

<p>BITS General Bit Rules</p>	<p>P44</p>	<p>Add:</p> <p>Leverage Bits.</p> <p>Leverage bits can have a chin strap attached to the bit to avoid over-rotation. Recommend to also use with equalisers or rounders.</p> <p>Includes Dutch Gags, Wilkie's, Kimblewick, Williams Universal, Pessoa, Eggbutt 2.5 ring etc.</p> <p>Also added to page 52 at the top under the header "Gag bits examples that are permitted EXCEPT disciplines listed in italics:"</p>
<p>Bits Bits not permitted in any discipline</p>	<p>P54</p>	<p>Remove</p> <p>Image shows a Kimblehook bit under the Butterfly Bit image. Updated to include the correct image of a butterfly bit. Kimblehook added to p51 with Kimblewick</p> 
<p>Bits Bit combination</p>	<p>P57</p>	<p>Add</p> <p>Group I added to the Permitted Cheekpieces</p>
<p>Spurs/ Rules for Spur Use</p>	<p>P60</p>	<p>Clarified</p> <p>Rowel Spurs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rowels are measured from the heel band to the pin of the rowel and must not exceed 45mm as per diagram - Image added for clarification 