

APSPH REL Fact Sheets

DO I NEED A RIDING ESTABLISHMENT LICENCE?

The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018
Guidance notes for conditions for hiring out horses July 2018

The new regulations make it very clear about who needs to have a licence for hiring ponies, it lays out that anyone who makes more than £1000 per annum by hiring out horses regardless to whom from whom, for example; professional players, amateur players, polo schools, polo academies, pony hirers, then you are legitimately running a business by doing so and require to be regulated:

Activities that fulfil one or more of the following criteria are subject to licensing:

1. Businesses which hire out horses for riding or for riding lessons. This includes riding schools and those that hire out horses, trekking, loan horses, pony parties (but only where the ponies are ridden), hunter hirelings, polo/polocrosse instruction and pony hire, pony and donkey rides.

Hiring out horses: definition in Schedule 1 of the regulations

“6. Hiring out horses in the course of a business for either or both of the following purposes—

(a) riding;

(b) instruction in riding.

(1) Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018

7. The activity described in paragraph 6 does not include any activity— (a) solely for military or police purposes, or (b) involving the instruction of students at a university on a course of study and examinations leading to a veterinary degree to which a recognition order under section 3 of the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1966(2) relates and for as long as such an order is in force.”*

*** The Animal Welfare (Licensing of Activities Involving Animals) (England) Regulations 2018 Guidance notes for conditions for hiring out horses July 2018, pg3-4**

It is important to note that in the new regulations it does not differentiate between hiring parties.

The law does not make any accommodation for these parties as the law is primarily about regulating animal welfare within business activities where money is made from the use of animals.

There is no exception for player-to-player hire.



Visit: www.apsph-polo.org.uk

Follow @the_apsph

Email: membership@apsph-polo.org.uk