

Tips for newcomers to trail hunting

The Morpeth Hunt welcomes new followers out trail hunting. If you would like to hunt for the first time or have an inexperienced horse, it's a good idea to join us during October when the pace is generally a little slower.

Please talk to:

- The Hunt Secretary, Michelle Macaulay (01669 650470) to find out about charges for the day, and to check where best to park your trailer or wagon.

We hope that everyone enjoys their day with the Morpeth, and here are some tips:

- Please turn up at the meet on time, so that you hear any announcements. Make sure you know who is field master for the day as you should follow them.
- Turn your horse's head towards the hounds, especially when you hear 'hounds please' as they move off from the meet. If your horse is young, consider wearing a green ribbon on its tail. If it might kick please keep it out of range of others and wear a red ribbon.
- There are a number of traditions regarding dress, but we welcome anyone out in neat, practical gear. Up until the opening meet in November, we wear tweed jackets with a tie or coloured stock, and we don't plait. After that generally people wear a black/blue jacket with a white or cream stock, unless you are a young person who would still wear tweed.
- Please remember to think of other road users and thank cars who pass.

WE CAN ONLY HUNT BECAUSE OF THE GOODWILL OF OUR FARMERS:

- Please ensure that all gates are left shut, unless told otherwise.
- Please pass stock carefully, especially cattle in the autumn. Please walk through farm yards especially where cattle are housed.
- Please go carefully around the edge of arable and hay fields and other places if asked to.
- Please carry string in your pocket to tie up any broken fences or to tie gates.

We also welcome our many enthusiastic car followers and would ask for their help by ensuring that, as well as horses not obstructing the road, plenty of space is left for other road users to go about their daily business. Please also remember to help the Hunt Staff by not getting too close to covers which are being drawn.

Happy Hunting!