

ST ALBANS CITY & DISTRICT COUNCIL LICENCE CONDITIONS
RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT 1964 & 1970

Stables that hire out horses or ponies for riding or instruction must be licensed under the Riding Establishments Act 1964 (as amended 1970) by the district in which they are situated. A current report from a veterinary surgeon or practitioner chosen by the district from the current List of Approved Riding Establishment Inspectors is a prerequisite of the grant of a licence.

1. The number of horses accommodated at the establishment at any one time for use under the above Act(s) must not exceed those on the attached Schedule. Only horses listed on the attached Schedule as suitable for use shall be used at the above premises. Any variation to the attached Schedule shall be notified in writing to the Council. Where additions to the attached Schedule are concerned a Veterinary Certificate specifying the horses' fitness and suitability shall be submitted to the Council.
2. Horses must be maintained in good health and in all respects physically fit and, in the case of a horse kept for the purpose of its being let out on hire for riding or a horse kept for the purpose of its being used in providing instruction in riding, the horse will be suitable for the purpose for which it is kept.
3. No horse aged three years or under nor any mare heavy with foal nor any mare within three months after foaling may be let out on hire for riding or use, in return for payment, for instruction in or demonstrating riding.
4. Any riding equipment supplied for a horse let out on hire must be free from vehicle defect which is likely to cause suffering to the horse or accident to the rider.
5. The feet of all animals must be properly trimmed and, if shod, their shoes must be properly fitted and in good condition.
6. A horse found, on inspection of the premises by an authorised officer to be in need of veterinary attention must not be returned to work until the holder of the licence has obtained at his own expense and has lodged with the local authority a veterinary certificate that the horse is fit for work.
7. No horse may be let out on hire for riding or used for providing instruction in riding without supervision by a responsible person of the age of 16 years or over unless (in the case of a horse let out for hire for riding) the holder of the licence is satisfied that the hirer of the horse is competent to ride, without supervision.

8. In the case of horses maintained at grass there must be available for them at all times during which they are so maintained adequate pasture and shelter and water and supplementary feeds must be provided as and when required.
9. Horses must be adequately supplied with suitable food, drink, and (except in the case of horses maintained at grass, so long as they are so maintained) bedding material, and must be adequately exercised, groomed and rested and visited at suitable intervals.
10. All reasonable precautions must be taken to prevent and control the spread among horses of infectious or contagious diseases and veterinary first aid equipment and medicines must be provided and maintained in the premises.
11. The construction of the riding establishment must be substantial, adequate to contain the animals, and provided with warmth and shelter in clean hygienic conditions. There must be convenient and safe access to stalls and boxes. Stalls must be large enough to allow the animal to lie down and get up without risk of injury. Boxes must be large enough to allow the animal to turn round.
12. Yards must provide enough space for every animal kept there. There must be available at all times accommodation for horses suitable as respects construction, size, number of occupants, lighting, ventilation, drainage and cleanliness. These requirements must be complied with not only in the case of new building but also in the case of building converted for use as stabling.
13. Lighting must be adequate to render the use of artificial light unnecessary in daylight.
14. Ventilation must provide fresh air without draughts.
15. Drainage must be adequate to carry away liquid voided by the horses and keep the standings dry.
16. There must be provision for storage and disposal of manure and spoiled straw.
17. Adequate accommodation must be provided for forage, bedding, stable equipment and saddlery.

18. The licence holder must ensure that appropriate steps will be taken for the protection and extrication of horses in case of fire and in particular, that the name, address and telephone number of the licence holder or some other responsible person are kept displayed in a prominent position at the outside of the premises and that instructions as to action to be taken in the event of fire, with particular regard to the extrication of horses, are kept displaying in a prominent position on the outside of the premises. A notice detailing action to be taken in the event of fire shall be displayed next to the sounder at the fire point.
19. The carrying on of the business of the establishment must at no time be left in the charge of any person under 16 years of age.
20. The Licence holder must hold a current insurance policy which insures him against liability for any injury sustained by those who hire a horse from him for riding and those who use a horse in the course of receiving from him, in return for payment, instruction in riding and arising out of the hire or use of a horse as aforesaid and which also insures such persons in respect of any liability which may be incurred by them in respect of injury to any person caused by, or arising out of, the hire or use of a horse as aforesaid.
21. A register must be kept by the licence holder of all horses in his possession aged three years and under and usually kept on the premises which shall be available for inspection by an authorised officer at all reasonable times.