

Duty of Care & Accident Prevention – Suggested Guidelines

It is the duty of everyone to help prevent accidents; many of these could be avoided by following the guidelines below

- All harness should be in a sound condition and adjusted to fit the horse or pony.
- The vehicle should be in sound condition and of a type suitable for the terrain to be covered. Always carry spares.
- Never put a horse/pony into an environment, which you believe it will find alien.
- Before attending a group event e.g. rally, show, ensure that your horse is happy driving with other turnouts.
- When driving in company never move off adjacent to another horse being put to without checking that the other driver is happy for you to do so.
- When driving in company leave sufficient distance from the vehicle in front to permit change of pace or direction.
- After descending a slope remember that all turnouts behind must be clear of the slope before anyone increases the pace.
- Look well ahead and remember what you miss (!) that your horse sees could be the start of a problem...
- Avoid driving on the highway at dawn/dusk and at night. If this cannot be avoided reflective clothing and carriage stickers are essential.
- Your whip is an aid – and should be in your hand and not the whip socket.
- Never tie a turnout to a fixed object with a horse/pony still in the shafts.
- Never tie a turnout to another turnout.
- Never dismount from the vehicle unless you have someone at the horse's head.
- Never remove the bridle until the horse is free of the vehicle.
- Always approach a ridden horse with extreme care.
- An active groom or passenger should be carried in the vehicle at all times.
- Always stop in a space, which allows you to exit easily at any time, especially applicable to groups.
- Pass pedestrians and other horses, ridden or driven, carefully – not too close or fast.



**BRITISH
DRIVING SOCIETY**

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RALLY DRIVE MILES AWARD

A new award scheme for members who attend BDS Rallies and accumulate Rally Drive Miles

(An ongoing award)

Drivers Name

Address

.....Post Code

Horse/Ponies Name

BDS Number

Rally Drivers Newcomer Award 25 miles

Rally Drivers Bronze Award 50 miles

Rally Drivers Silver Award 75 miles

Rally Drivers Gold Award 100 miles

Rally Drivers Platinum/Gold Award 150 miles

Rally Drivers Medal 200 miles

