

On 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.
- Every turnout must have an able-bodied groom.
- 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.



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RALLY DRIVE MILES AWARD

**An award scheme for members who attend BDS Rallies
and accumulate Rally Drive Miles**

(An ongoing award)

Drivers Name

Address

..... **Postcode**

Horse/Ponies Name

BDS Mem No

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**

