

# BADSWORTH & BRAMHAM MOOR

## ‘MODERN HUNTING & COURTESY’

Advice for Newcomers and Beginners

The Badsworth & Bramham Moor meet by arrangement and are therefore easily recognisable and are accountable for their actions and behaviour. Mounted and Car Followers enjoy access to large areas of countryside and this privilege requires that all Followers respect the traditions and customs of the Badsworth & Bramham Moor and the Farmers.

But, to begin, if you only have time to pay attention to just the basic customs and suggestions highlighted below, you will be a safer rider, you will enjoy your day out and you will be welcome on any Hunting Field.

When you have the time, you may wish to continue reading the Badsworth & Bramham Moor advice leaflet available from the Secretary, and learn more about hunting.

- Please be prepared to follow any requests and instructions from the Masters. They are responsible for conducting the day's activities and they are regulated by the MFHA (Masters of Foxhound Association). When riding to Hounds, their authority is absolute and their instructions should be cheerfully obeyed and please do not obstruct the Masters, Huntsman or Whipper-ins.
- Polite, sensible behaviour is expected from all Followers. Avoid over-loud conversation. Inappropriate and offensive language is not acceptable. Please use commonsense and be responsible if having a drink.
- Sensible clothes and tack please, (brightly coloured fashion statements are inappropriate for both riders and horses). Turnout should be always neat, clean and safe – hair should be neatly tied back or in a net and ties should be secured. If in doubt as to what turnout is expected, please contact the Secretary for advice.
- Consider footwear. **Yours** - should be sensible riding boots. If you have half sole boot repairs, the ridge may prevent your foot leaving the stirrup in the event of a fall. **Your horse** – Consider fitting studs to prevent your horse slipping. When riding on the road take care when turning corners – your horse may lose its footing.
- Keep up with, but behind the Field Master. If you lose the Field Master and are unsure where you are, ride on the roads and tracks until you can catch up.
- Do not gallop away from obstacles (gates, narrow / steep place etc) whilst other riders are still negotiating the obstacle – just walk away quietly. Do not leave a person alone to close a gate, it is safer, easier and polite to wait and help – it may be you left alone at a gate next time!
- If you know your horse is not a reliable jumper, please do not push to the front of the Field, refuse and then block the jump. If a jump is narrow, form an orderly queue and do not cut in. If your horse refuses, you should pull away immediately and go to the back of the queue – do not barge in ahead of your turn. Please do not set off to jump until the horse in front has completed the jump and vacated the exit.
- Always turn your horse to face Hounds to prevent horses kicking Hounds.
- If your horse has a red or green ribbon, for safety, please keep to the back of the Field.
- Show consideration to other road users and remember to thank people.
- If you are a child or young person – please remember that it will be really appreciated if you offer to help at gates etc. you will be much more agile and can get back on your horse / pony quicker than some of the older Members.
- Parents should never send a child hunting alone – a responsible adult must accompany.
- Mobile phones, whilst very useful, should preferably be switched to silent mode.
- All riders must have 3<sup>rd</sup> Party and Public Liability Insurance, which includes hunting. It is expected that everyone riding out with the Badsworth & Bramham Moor and all Supporters are also members of the Countryside Alliance
- Hollering is a habit, now best kept quietly in your heart.

The Badsworth & Bramham Moor and their Followers are a close knit and friendly group and anyone can join – it is open to all from 6 months to 90+ years. Mounted Followers, Car and Foot Followers.

**Why do we do it?** We've been doing it for almost 300 years and we do it because we enjoy it! All the various aspects – the horses, the Hounds working, the riding, following on foot or by car, the countryside, seeing wildlife, the fresh air, the freedom and exercise, the friendship, the excitement and colour. Then of course, there is the full and active social life – Hunt Balls, Parties, Puppy Shows, Terrier Shows, Team Chases, Hunter Trials, Point-to-Point, Horse Trials, Breakfasts, Barbecues and Social Evenings.

**There is no other riding experience quite like it! BE PREPARED TO HAVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE!!**