

1st January 2012 PVG Update for BHS Scotland

The British Horse Society (Scotland) has updated its PVG policy in line with current Scottish Legislation.

From January 1st 2012 a PVG check will no longer be a prerequisite to joining the register of riding instructors for Scottish instructors.

Riding instructors in regulated work can only be checked by employers or if you are freelance regularly teaching children in a one to one basis you can access your own check from Disclosure Scotland.

Riding instructors who never do regulated work do not need to be checked.

Employers (clubs and riding establishments) have until March 2015 to ensure all their employees in regulated work join the PVG scheme.

BHS Scotland can facilitate PVG checks on behalf of clubs and riding establishments that require them.

The following advice explains the options for instructors working with children (in regulated work) either on a freelance basis or for Pony Clubs or any other Riding Establishments.

Working for a club or any Riding Establishment

When an individual is working for, or volunteering for, any club or Riding Establishment, where a PVG check is necessary it is the responsibility of that club or establishment to ensure they access either a Scheme Record or a Scheme Record Update to enhance any existing recruitment practices. BHS Scotland can help clubs and riding schools.

If an instructor is already an existing member of the PVG Scheme they should access a disclosure update via the organisation that employs them.

For instructors who work for more than one club or establishment you must initially obtain a Scheme Record through one of your employers, and then you only need apply for a Scheme Record Update for subsequent clubs/establishments.

Freelance instructors

Freelance Instructors who have not yet joined the PVG scheme, but need to, can obtain a Scheme Membership Statement directly from Disclosure Scotland at a cost of £59. It is up to the individual to decide whether they require a PVG check while working with private clients under the age of 18 in their own homes on a freelance basis. Alternatively parents might choose to check whether the registered instructor is barred from working with children.

Recently joined the PVG Scheme through BHS Scotland

If you have recently joined the PVG scheme through BHS Scotland and only intend to work on a freelance basis with individual clients then no further action is required. If, however, you intend you intend to work/volunteer for a club or Riding Establishment please read the paragraph above called "Working for a club or any Riding Establishment."

BHS Scotland will be holding a meeting on PVG requirements for the Equine Industry early in the New Year. Date TBA.

For any further queries please contact bhsscotland@bhs.org.uk