

Hi there, hopefully everyone is staying safe and well :)

After careful consideration by the trustees of current RDA guidelines we have decided that unfortunately we shall not be able to restart RDA sessions this year: we feel that we cannot operate safely whilst sticking to the guidelines.

If guidelines change in the next couple of weeks then we can review the situation, otherwise it will be after Easter 2021 when we start back. This sounds like ages away and is disappointing for everyone concerned, but hopefully we will be fully operational again next summer.

In the meantime we shall be having some volunteer meetings and if guidelines permit we may be able to run some training sessions too. We shall be in contact with schools early in the new year to plan for after Easter. Meanwhile if you have any questions please email me.

Thanks, Susan :)

PS For your information the relevant sections of the RDA guidelines are shown below:

*Anyone mounted on a horse, or undertaking exercise (side walking, leading etc) must not wear face coverings/shields in RDA sessions.*

*It is not normally possible to lead safely at 2M, so as our government guidelines require us to socially/physically distance at 2M it is not feasible for non-household members to lead or side walk a rider safely.*

*The government guidelines require us to socially/physically distance at least 1M plus mitigation. We are still unable to sidewalk within these guidelines and would only be able to lead with the mitigation that the leader would at all times be at least 1m away and facing away from the rider.*