



## PONY CLUB ASSOCIATION OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA



### CODE OF CONDUCT

#### **Members should be aware of the Aims and Objectives of Membership:**

- To encourage young people to ride and learn to enjoy all approved kinds of sport connected with horses and riding
- To provide instruction in riding, horsemastership and to instil in members the proper care of their animals
- To promote the highest ideals of fellowship, citizenship and loyalty and to cultivate strength of character and self-discipline.
- Members should be aware Pony Club is a Youth movement and has always maintained a high standard of behaviour and presentation.
- Members should be aware if they are representing the Pony Club in any shape or form, whether it be Club, Zone, State or Country, that it is expected that their behaviour would never compromise, bring into disrepute or embarrass themselves, their Club, Zone or State Pony Club Association.
- Members should be proud of their involvement in the Pony Club movement and in their uniform.

**Members should be aware they are under scrutiny by their elders, other Associations and particularly the more junior members of the Pony Club and so should always be setting the example.**

### CARE OF THE HORSE

- In all equestrian sports, the horse must be considered paramount.
- The well being of the horse shall be above the demands of riders, coaches, owners, officials, organisers or sponsors.
- In the interest of the horse, the fitness and competence of the rider shall be regarded as essential.

### RIDERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

- Ride by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree, have your Captain, Coach or Manager approach the official during a break or after the competition.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and sledging other riders, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent are not acceptable or permitted behaviours in any sport.
- Work equally hard for yourself and/or your team. Your team's performance will benefit; so will you.
- Be a good sport. Applaud all good efforts whether they are by your team or the other competitors.
- Treat all riders, as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another rider.
- Cooperate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Ride for the 'fun of it' and not just to please parents and coaches.
- Avoid use of derogatory language.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.



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### **PARENT / GUARDIAN'S CODE OF CONDUCT**

- Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Focus on the rider's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Encourage children always to play according to the rules and settle disagreements without resorting to hostility or violence.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Appreciate good performances and skilful plays by all participants
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Show appreciation for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. Without them your child could not participate.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

### **SPECTATORS' CODE OF CONDUCT**

- Respect the decisions of officials and teach young people to do the same.
- Never ridicule or scold a young rider for making a mistake. Positive comments are motivational.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by other spectators, coaches, officials or riders.
- Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them, there would be no competition.
- Do not use violence, harassment or abuse in any form (that is, do not use foul language, sledge or harass riders, coaches, officials or other spectators).
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S CODE OF CONDUCT**

- Involve young people in planning, leadership, evaluation and decision making related to the activity.
- Give all young people equal opportunities to participate.
- Create pathways for young people to participate in sport not just as a player but also as a coach, referee, administrator etc.
- Ensure that rules, equipment, length of games and training schedules are modified to suit the age, ability and maturity level of young players.
- Provide quality supervision and instruction for junior players.
- Remember that young people participate for their enjoyment and benefit. Do not over emphasize awards.
- Help coaches and officials highlight appropriate behavior and skill development, and help improve the standards of coaching and officiating.
- Ensure that everyone involved in junior sport emphasizes fair play, and not winning at all costs.
- Give a code of behavior sheet to spectators, officials, parents, coaches, players and the media, and encourage them to follow it.
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Support implementation of the National Junior Sport Policy.
- Make it clear that abusing young people in any way is unacceptable and will result in disciplinary action.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.



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### **OFFICIAL'S CODE OF CONDUCT**

- Modify rules and regulations to match the skill levels and need of young people.
- Compliment and encourage all participants.
- Be consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions.
- Condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for all opponents.
- Emphasise the spirit of the game rather than the errors.
- Encourage and promote rule changes which will make participation more enjoyable.
- Be a good sport yourself. Actions speak louder than words.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Remember, you set an example. Your behaviour and comments should be positive and supportive.
- Place the safety and welfare of the participants above all else.
- Give all young people a 'fair go' regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.