



# Clydesdale Cross Sport Horse Association Inc.

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## CODE OF CONDUCT FOR EVENTS AND COMPETITIONS

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The CCSHA contains members at all levels of experience, from very diverse backgrounds, with extensive areas of expertise. Some horses in our registries may be commencing their training as foals, while others may be competing at extremely high levels. With this in mind, CCSHA events are designed to be fully inclusive and provide equal opportunities for all competitors. Our aim is to make everyone feel comfortable and supported, while show-casing the versatility of the Clydesdale Cross Sport Horse.

The Code of Conduct outlined below aims to provide guidelines regarding the behaviour members / participants / representatives at CCSHA events and competitions. It is by no means exhaustive and is an attempt to address fundamental principles and to highlight some of the most sensitive and important issues.

When attending CCSHA held or sponsored events and competitions, members are bound by the *Code of Conduct*, as well as the *Code of Ethics* and *Social Media Policy*. Any person who breaches the Code, may be subject to disciplinary action, including cancellation of membership and stripping of awards / titles.

### COMPETITORS / RIDERS / HANDLERS

- Abide by the rules of the event, the CCSHA and Equestrian Australia
- Respect the decisions of Judges and CCSHA officials and make all appeals and complaints through the formal process
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow competitors, judges, officials, volunteers and spectators regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Encourage and acknowledge the talent, potential, development and effort of fellow competitors. Display modesty in victory and graciousness in defeat
- Maintain high standards of behaviour at all times and set a good example in dress and horse presentation
- Do not use acts of aggression, threatening, sledging or deliberately distracting behaviour under any circumstance
- Refrain from drinking alcohol, smoking or using a mobile phone whilst in the ring / class
- Care for and respect the equipment provided
- Ensure that horses are adequately trained / prepared for the event and possess an appropriate level of health, fitness and soundness
- Wear clothing and safety equipment that is appropriate for horse riding / handling
- Ensure that tack and gear is in good order, correctly fitted and safe for the type of activities being conducted
- Make every effort to ensure that the horse's welfare is not compromised, including paying careful attention to competition areas, ground surfaces, weather conditions, stabling / yarding at the event, fitness for travel, etc.

## **CCSHA OFFICIALS**

- Respect the talent and diversity of each rider / handler and their horse and seek to develop their potential via a fair and carefully thought-out program / itinerary
- Provide equal opportunities for all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Operate within the rules and spirit of the CCSHA and encourage riders / handlers to do the same
- Ensure that time spent at CCSHA events are a positive experience
- Remember that CCSHA representatives and their families set an example for members / participants and therefore; must not consume alcohol before the event, use bad language or harass or abuse members / officials / spectators
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of competitors
- Actively discourage and act upon unsportsmanlike behaviour, foul play and actions that are not in line with the spirit of the CCSHA. This may include removing the individual and their horse from the class or disqualifying them from the event
- Ensure that the horse's welfare is not compromised and takes precedence over all other demands, including training methods, health care, transportation, farriery, stabling / yarding, fitness for competition, etc.
- Resolve complaints, or conflicts, fairly and promptly through established channels, ensuring that documentation is completed and tabled at the next scheduled CCSHA Committee Meeting

## **JUDGES**

- Acknowledge and celebrate the diversity of the Clydesdale Cross Sport Horse
- Provide equal opportunities for all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Operate within the rules and spirit of the CCSHA and ensure that riders / handlers to do the same
- Remember that a Judge's behaviour sets the standard for competitors and must be professional at all times, including :
  - Refrain from drinking alcohol, smoking or using a mobile phone whilst in the ring / class or undertaking official duties
  - Dress in neat and appropriate attire, including safe footwear
  - Must not use bad language, harass or abuse members / officials / spectators
  - Be honest, fair and unbiased when making decisions
- Communicate professionally and empathetically with competitors to ensure that they fully understand;
  - The rules and requirements of the class / event
  - The nature of the workout / task (especially in relation to novice and junior competitors)
  - The reason(s) the chosen place getters / winners were selected
- Judges must not;
  - Judge an event / class where immediate members of their family or representatives of their Stud are present
  - Judge a horse that they own or has been leased / sold by them within 12 month period
- Actively discourage and act upon unsportsmanlike behaviour, foul play and actions that are not in line with the spirit of the CCSHA. This may include removing the individual and their horse from the class or disqualifying them from the event
- If a horse is not under effective control or is behaving dangerously, the Judge may remove the individual and their horse from the class or disqualify them from the event
- Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of competitors

- Ensure that the horse's welfare is not compromised and takes precedence over all other demands, including training methods, health care, transportation, farriery, stabling / yarding, fitness for competition, etc.
- Keep up to date with the latest trends in officiating, rules and the principles of growth and development of competitors

## **STEWARDS**

- Acknowledge and celebrate the diversity of the Clydesdale Cross Sport Horse
- Provide equal opportunities for all participants regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- Operate within the rules and spirit of the CCSHA and ensure that riders / handlers to do the same
- Remember that a Steward's behaviour sets the standard for competitors and must be professional at all times, including :
  - Refrain from drinking alcohol, smoking or using a mobile phone whilst in the ring / class or undertaking official duties
  - Dress in neat and appropriate attire, including safe footwear
  - Must not use bad language, harass or abuse members / officials / spectators
- Never influence the Judge's decision or stand in a position which may interfere with the Judging or class / event proceedings
- Ensure that their conduct does not interfere with competitors, horses or class proceedings unless instructed by the Judge
- Communicate professionally and empathetically with competitors to ensure that they fully understand;
  - The correct location and start time of their class / event
  - Class / event related information such as rules, entry requirements, equipment required, etc.
- Actively discourage and act upon unsportsmanlike behaviour, foul play and actions that are not in line with the spirit of the CCSHA