

# **HRCAV CODE OF CONDUCT**

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

The HRCAV recognizes the principles covered in the Vic Sport Code of Conduct and works to ensure:

- inclusion of every person regardless of their gender or sexual orientation
- inclusion of every person regardless of their race, culture or religion
- opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in the sport and develop to their full potential
- that respect is shown towards others, the club and the broader community
- a safe and inclusive environment for all
- elimination of violent and abusive behaviour
- protection of persons involved in the sport from sexual harassment or intimidation
- protection of persons involved in the sport from other forms of harassment

This Code and Association rules apply to all Club sanctioned events and activities and extends to cover unacceptable behavior on the part of individual members which has the potential to be injurious to the reputation of the Association and negatively affect the safety and enjoyment of the sport by other members.

## **BREACHES OF CODE OF CONDUCT**

The HRCAV Committee may impose sanctions where they are satisfied that there is proof that a breach of the Code of Conduct has occurred. Breaches of the Code of Conduct include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Failure to comply with the Rules of the Association
- Disrespecting the Rules of the Association or those of the Organising Committee of an event in such a manner that is considered offensive.
- Disrespecting the decisions of Judges or Event Officials.
- Failure to follow the orders of Event Officials.
- Bribing or attempting to bribe Officials or Judges.
- Defamation of the Association.
- Conduct which may be injurious to the reputation of the Association.
- Behaviour or use of language in a manner which may be considered offensive.

- Willfully misleading the Association or the Organising Committee as to the eligibility of a Horse/Rider or the misrepresentation of the Horse/Rider's identity.
- Use of illegal substances or failure or refusal of a rider, owner or HRCVV member to allow his/her horse to be swabbed.
- Harassment including offensive, abusive, belittling or threatening behaviour directed at a person or people in the form of verbal, non verbal or written communication including harassment via electronic media.
- Violent or abusive behaviour towards another person.
- Vilification of any kind towards another person.
- Discrimination against another person based on their age, gender or sexual orientation.
- Discrimination against another person based on their race, culture, religion or any other irrelevant personal characteristic.
- Sexual harassment or intimidation of another person.
- Victimisation of another person for exercising their rights through the Code of Conduct.
- Repeating offences after being given a warning in writing by the HRCVV Committee.
- Failure to maintain a safe environment
- Cruelty to a horse in the following manner:  
Refer to Disciplinary Rules Appendix 1 for clarification
  - To whip or beat a horse excessively
  - To subject a horse to any kind of electric shock
  - To use spurs, or to jab the horse in the mouth with the bit excessively or persistently
  - To mount, attempt to mount or ride an obviously exhausted, lame or injured horse
  - To 'rap' a horse anywhere in or outside the grounds of the Event
  - To hyper-sensitise any part of a horse
  - To leave a horse without adequate food, drink and exercise.