

Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc.



Code of Conduct for Judges

1. Introduction

The Show Horse Council of Australasia's Code of Conduct for Judges outlines the behaviours that are expected of any person on the SHCA List of Judges or who has been engaged to officiate at Show Horse Council of Australasia sanctioned events.

The Show Horse Council of Australasia Code of Conduct for Judges is to be read in conjunction with all Rules, Regulations, By-Laws and Policies of the Show Horse Council of Australasia. These can be located at www.showhorsecouncilaust.com.au.

2. Code of Conduct

The Show Horse Council of Australasia requires any person on the SHCA List of Judges who has been engaged to officiate at Show Horse Council sanctioned event or any person engaged by the Show Horse Council of Australasia to officiate at any event to:

- a) refrain from advertising or promoting their judging appointment on social media.
 - I. Social Media means websites and applications that enable users to create and share content or participate in social networking and includes but is not limited to Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter etc
- b) refrain from the use of social media for the duration of the event
- c) not wear a Smartwatch or similar device for the duration of the event.
 - I. A smartwatch has functions consistent with that of a Smartphone and can accept messages
- d) not have any electronic or telephone communication with any competitor for the duration of the event.
 - I. A competitor is a person who has nominated to compete and includes but is not limited to: horse owner, horse rider, horse handler, exhibitor, Responsible Officer
 - II. The duration of the event is deemed to be from when a person commences their travel to an event until the conclusion of judging at that event.
- e) place the safety and welfare of riders and horses above all else
- f) always place the safety and welfare of children above other considerations.
- g) give all competitors a 'fair go' regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
- h) be ethical, fair and honest in the dealing with people
- i) be impartial, consistent, objective and courteous when making decisions
- j) condemn unsporting behaviour and promote respect for the individuality of competitors
- k) avoid any situations which may lead to or be construed as a conflict of interest
- l) be a positive role model in behaviour and personal appearance and ensure your comments are positive and supportive
- m) be a good sport and understand that actions speak louder than words
- n) always respect, remain loyal to and support other officials
- o) work with each other and the organising committee in a constructive and cooperative manner
- p) operate within the rules and spirit of the sport
- q) comply with the Show Horse Council of Australasia Rules, Regulations, By-Laws and Policies located at www.showhorsecouncilaust.com.au
- r) refrain from any form of personal abuse towards competitors, officials, spectators and supporters
- s) refrain from any form of sexual harassment towards competitors, officials, spectators and supporters
- t) be punctual and professional in the fulfilment of their duties

- u) not arrive at the venue under the influence of alcohol or illicit drugs
- v) not drink alcohol during the course of competition when required to officiate
- w) treat all persons with respect, courtesy and have proper regard for their dignity, rights and obligations
- x) comply with all relevant Australian Laws (Federal and State), particularly antidiscrimination and child protection policies
- y) be responsible and accountable for their conduct

3. Complaints

If a person is concerned that a breach of the SHCA Code of Conduct for Judges has occurred, a complaint can be made to a Show Horse Council of Australasia official, President or Ringmaster. The Show Horse Council of Australasia takes all complaints seriously. The Show Horse Council of Australasia will handle complaints based on the principles of procedural fairness, and ensure:

- a) all complaints will be taken seriously
- b) the person making the complaint (complainant) will be given full details of what is being alleged against them and have the opportunity to respond to those allegations;
- c) irrelevant matters will not be taken into account, and
- d) decisions will be unbiased

4. Dress code and Protocol

The council would like to draw your attention the SHCA dressing requirements. Given our duty of care and the rapidly changing climate we would appreciate your cooperation in keeping within these guidelines when choosing you outfits.

- a. It is expected that anyone judging at a Show be attired in a clean, neat and tidy fashion.
- b. Clothing should be practical, suitable, comfortable and appropriate for the prevailing weather.
- c. A Judge may dress in riding habit/costume or in suitable street clothes but should be smartly attired. Judges should not present themselves in miniskirts, jeans, shorts, see through attire, collarless shirts, tee shirts, wind cheaters, open shoes or joggers.
- d. A hat is important for its practical implications, however, a sensible approach is needed. The hat must fit well and be firmly secured. It should not be outlandish in size.
- e. Hair should be neat and tidy.
- f. It is wise to be prepared for changes in the weather. Remember to be covered sufficiently to avoid sunburn. Dress simply and practically so that you are comfortable and can enjoy your day.
- g. Shoes are to be comfortable and practical. High heels are impractical as they sink into the ground and restrict movement. Flat or very low heels are advisable.
- h. A man is required to wear a collar and tie, trousers and a coat. Moleskins are acceptable but not jeans.

MAJOR EVENTS: There are now more opportunities for Judges to officiate at the highest level. Apart from the Royals, there are State Horse of the Year Shows and Grand National Qualifying Shows. A Judge officiating at this level is expected to dress more formally befitting the occasion. However, whilst keeping in mind possible changing weather conditions on the day, attire must be kept practical and sensible.