



# CODE OF CONDUCT

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## 1. General Conduct

- All participants, officials, and spectators must conduct themselves in a professional and sportsmanlike manner.
- Respect for fellow competitors, event staff, and animals is mandatory.
- Any form of harassment, abuse, or unsportsmanlike behavior will not be tolerated.

## 2. Horse Welfare

- The welfare of horses is paramount; any mistreatment or neglect will result in immediate disqualification.
- Horses must be provided with adequate food, water, and rest.
- The use of prohibited substances or abusive training methods is strictly forbidden.

## 3. Competitor Responsibilities

- Competitors must adhere to all event rules and regulations as set by the Victorian Reined Cowhorse Association (VRCHA).
- Any disputes must be addressed through the Arena Boss via the Event Office, in a respectful manner.
- All Competitors: A long sleeve collared shirt, Western or English riding boots, Western cowboy hat or for those 18 years and under an approved safety helmet must be worn. Chaps or chinks are optional. Jeans should be tidy with no rips or tears and preferably worn with a belt. Spurs are optional.
- All Competitors **MUST** have their competitor number pinned on the near and offside of their horse's saddle pad or saddle blanket **BEFORE** entering the arena - No Competitor Number = NO SCORE.



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## 4. Dogs at the Event

- All dogs must be kept on a leash at all times while on the event grounds.
- Dogs must be secured either on a chain or safely contained in your camping rig overnight.
- Loose or unsupervised dogs may result in disciplinary action, including removal from the grounds.

## 5. Officials and Staff

- Officials: Judges and Stewards shall wear a long sleeve collared shirt, Western or English riding boots, Western cowboy hat, and jeans/trousers that are tidy with no rips or tears, preferably worn with a belt.
- Other Event Officials: Photographers, Prize and Ribbon Runners, Gate Marshalls, Cattle Return Riders, and Arena Drag Drivers shall wear a long sleeve collared shirt, Western or English riding boots, and a Western cowboy hat or cap. Jeans/trousers should be tidy with no rips or tears and preferably worn with a belt.

## 9. Alcohol and Drug Policy

- Competitors and officials must not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol while participating.
- Any violation will result in immediate disqualification and possible further sanctions.

## 10. Compliance and Consequences

- Failure to adhere to this Code of Conduct may result in warnings, disqualification, suspension, or banning from future events.
- Event organisers reserve the right to enforce these rules to ensure a safe and fair competition for all.