



**Standardbred Association
Queensland**

STANDARDBRED ASSOCIATION QUEENSLAND INC.

PLEASURE AND PERFORMANCE HORSE ASSOCIATION QLD

✉ PO Box 348, ROSEWOOD QLD 4340

🌐 www.saq.com.au

MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITIES AND OUR CODE OF CONDUCT

The purpose of this publication is to set out clearly the Association's minimum Standards of behaviour and responsibilities. It should be noted that the contents of this publication is by no means exhaustive.

This Code of Conduct and the Rules of the Association apply to all SAQ Inc sanctioned events and activities and extends to cover unacceptable behaviour 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 others.

ALL MEMBERS OF Standardbred Association Queensland Inc are required to:

- To abide by the Rules of the SAQ. Copies of the rules are available from www.saq.com.au – Publications or hard copies can be purchased from the club.
- Be familiar with the Code of Conduct.
- Represent SAQ in a good light. No member shall conduct themselves in a manner that discredits the Association, the breed or the member.
- Make themselves available for Rosters at events/musters/Working Bees.
- Make new members and visitors welcome.
- Show courtesy and common sense to all.
- Refrain from any abusive or violent behaviour.
- Ride safely, both for themselves and others at all times.
- Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow riders, coaches, officials, volunteers and spectators.
- Follow requests and instructions of Event Officials.
- Recognise that many officials and coaches are volunteers who give up their time to provide their services. Treat them with the utmost respect.
- Respect decisions of Judges and/or Event Officials, making all appeals through the formal process and respecting the final decision.
- Members must wear helmets and boots at all times when mounted.
- Horses can only be mounted after being gear checked by instructor. The Committee reserves the right to inspect all tack and gear (including harness and vehicle) prior to a competition/event. If the equipment proves to be defective or unsafe and cannot be made safe prior to the competition/event, the horse will be withdrawn from the competition/event without refund of entry fee.
- Horses can only be ridden by members at musters/events unless otherwise advised.
- We encourage horses to be ridden in a snaffle bit at musters. If a more severe bit is

used we suggest the rider know how the bit works and the reason it is being used.

- All individuals must acknowledge and accept that at all times the welfare of the horse is paramount and must never be secondary to competitive or commercial influences.
- UNSOUND HORSES- Occasionally horses may present to be unsound or unwell during the course of the muster/event. The welfare of the horse is of utmost importance so a rider may be asked to discontinue riding. If a second opinion is required the Club President, Events Coordinator or Safety Officer may be called upon.
- All horses must compete free of any foreign/banned substances.
- A parent /guardian must be present for the whole day for any rider under the age of 18.
- Rider safety is our priority so unfortunately dogs are not permitted on the grounds.
- Smoking on grounds is not encouraged. If it is necessary for an adult to smoke, we request it is well clear of competitors and not in sight of any children.
- The consumption of alcohol is prohibited for any member under the age of 18yrs and is not encouraged for parents/adults whilst engaged in SAQ activities.
- It is requested that language be kept appropriate whilst supporting SAQ activities.
- SAQ strongly recommends and supports sun safe practices. Whilst SAQ will endeavour to assist in sun protection when at events and competitions, it is recognised that ultimately, the responsibility is that of each individual.

BREACHES OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT, DISPUTES AND MEDIATION

The SAQ Inc Committee may impose sanctions when they are satisfied that there is proof that a breach of the Code of Conduct has occurred.

Members of the Association who are concerned about conduct should raise their concerns with a SAQ Inc Committee Member.

In the unfortunate case of a breach of code of conduct or dispute arising

- a) Between members of the club
- b) Between members of the club and a member/s of the committee
- c) Between member and steward/instructor

The following procedures will be followed:

- The matter is to be brought to the attention of a SAQ Committee Member
- The parties, if deemed necessary, will meet and discuss the dispute within 14 days to see if it can be resolved.
- If it cannot be resolved simply, the issue must be put in writing and presented at the next committee meeting. The issue may be addressed in writing by the committee, or a meeting arranged with a mediator. The mediator may be a person chosen by agreement by the parties or a person appointed by the SAQ Management Committee.
- If the Mediation process does not result in the dispute being resolved, the parties may seek to resolve the dispute in accordance with the SAQ Constitution and act or otherwise at law.
- Any member deemed, by the Committee, not to be acting in strict accordance with the Constitution or other rules/regulations may be called upon by the Committee to show cause as to why their membership should not be disqualified.