



CODE OF ETHICS, CONDUCT & BULLYING

1. This code of ethics, conduct and bullying is hereby adopted as part of the Constitution of the Australian Miniature Horse Society Inc.

2. If a Member or Members are found to be in violation of this code of ethics, conduct and bullying, membership privileges may be denied, membership reviewed or if of a nature serious enough, then the matter may be dealt with under Rule 13 and 19 of the Constitution.

3. In every situation the welfare of the breeds and the reputation of the Australian Miniature Horse Society Inc. shall be paramount over other considerations.

4. It shall be considered unethical practice for any Member against whom a complaint has been made to attempt to influence the Committee of Management or any other Member by duress or intimidation of a sort, prior to the complaint having been resolved according to the Association's Constitution.

5. All Members and Non Members, including Spectators and Committee Members are expected to meet certain criteria regarding their conduct and behaviour, this includes conduct and behaviour at any AMHS Event and includes the following:

- a) Shall not publicly disparage the Society, Committee Members and other Members in any form. This includes the use of public forums, including Face book, Twitter or any other social media platform.
- b) Are to respect the rights, dignity and worth of others regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, religious/political or sexual preferences.
- c) Refrain from using behaviour or language that may frighten, humiliate, belittle, criticise, harass, sledge or degrade the Society or another person.
- d) Be fair, respectful and considerate in all dealings with other people, Committee Members, Exhibitors, Members, Non Members and encourage others to do the same.
- e) Never encourage another person or group to participate in any form of bullying behaviour, whether physical, written or verbal.
- f) Be aware of and maintain the Rules and Regulations of the AMHS Inc. Ensure you operate within those Rules and Regulations at all times to protect the standing and reputation of the Society.
- g) Never interfere with another person's property and equipment, including their horses and ponies.
- h) Be a positive role model, demonstrating at all times the highest degree of integrity and responsibility.
- i) Remember that you are setting an example by your actions and words; these must always be positive examples and must never cause negativity, intimidation or offence to either the Society or to others.
- j) Never use your position within the Society to promote personal beliefs and practices.
- k) All persons must acknowledge and accept that the welfare of the horse must, at all times, be paramount and never be subject to competition or commercial influences.
- l) Bullying behaviour of any description will not be tolerated at any time.



OWNERS AND BREEDERS

6. Owners and Breeders shall avoid false, misleading and misapplied statements, advertisements and the like concerning horses offered for sale or for Stud purposes.
7. Owners and Breeders shall not publicly disparage the horse of another Owner or Breeder, nor publicly volunteer an opinion of another Owner's horse or a transaction to which he is not a party. If his private opinion is sought, and he sincerely feels qualified to answer, that opinion shall be given privately and with courtesy and integrity.
8. An Owner or Breeder and their Agents and employees shall use reasonable care in the handling and treatment of his/her own horses and those horses placed in his/her care.

EXHIBITORS

9. Conduct of Owners and Exhibitors in the ring and on the show grounds shall be exemplary at all times.
10. The ring and show grounds conduct of any Exhibitor shall not be such as to adversely affect the exhibition of any other person's horse.
11. Owners and Exhibitors shall not attempt to influence Judges or appointed Judges by any means prior to or after an event.
12. Non winners of an event shall remain in the ring or display area until dismissed in the manner directed by the Show Organisers.
13. Genuine applause is commendable, but not where it represents less than fair competition to other horses in the event.
14. Owners and Exhibitors shall not accuse the Judge of favouritism or bribery of any form. If they have a legitimate protest, then it shall be followed in the manner laid out in the Show Rules under Rule 6 - Judges. Owners and Exhibitors shall support the Judge and judging system of the day.

JUDGES AND STEWARDS

The Australian Miniature Horse Society Inc. shall expect all judges of approved or sponsored shows, and thereby their Stewards, to understand and abide by the following:

15. The first step of a Judge is to exhibit the highest standard of integrity at all times toward the breed, the horses exhibited, and their handlers, she/he should avoid decisions arrived at by influence, bias, reputation or ignorance.
16. Judges are responsible for a knowledge and understanding of the applicable Breed they are appointed to judge i.e. AMHS/AMPR/ASPA and/or ASFR.
17. Judges and Stewards shall make every effort to isolate themselves from Exhibitors and Handlers until the conclusion of judging for the day or the show.
18. Judges and Stewards shall report to the Event Management any improper approaches by Exhibitors, Handlers or Owners of any horse shown.

The Australian Miniature Horse Society Inc. holds that adherence to this code of ethics is important to the integrity of the Breeds and the Australian Miniature Horse Society Inc. Membership to the Australian Miniature Horse Society Inc is an agreement to abide by this code of ethics, conduct and bullying.