



Australian Mounted Games Association

Code of Behaviour

1 October 2022

Purpose

This document outlines the expected behaviour of all people associated with activities held by The Australian Mounted Games Association (AMGA).

Scope

The Code of Behaviour applies to all activities of AMGA and its branches and includes but is not limited to: Events, Social Activities, Meetings and Tours. The code also includes AMGA representatives participating in International Mounted Games Association (IMGA) activities.

Implementation

All members of AMGA and other persons involved with AMGA activities must familiarise themselves with the Code and ensure that they uphold it all times. Any person observing conduct outside the code should report such conduct using the procedures in the “AMGA Member Protection Policy”.

General Code of Behaviour

All persons involved in an AMGA activity must meet the following requirements at all times:

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
2. Be fair, considerate and honest in all dealing with others.
3. Be professional in, and accept responsibility for, your actions.
4. Make a commitment to providing quality service.
5. Be aware of, and maintain an uncompromising adherence to, AMGA's standards, rules, regulations and policies.

6. Operate within the rules of the sport including national and international guidelines which govern AMGA.
7. Do not use your involvement with AMGA to promote your own beliefs, behaviours or practices where these are inconsistent with those of AMGA.
8. Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
9. Avoid unaccompanied and unobserved activities with persons under 18 years of age, wherever possible.
10. Refrain from any form of harassment of others.
11. Refrain from any behaviour that may bring AMGA into disrepute.
12. Provide a safe environment for the conduct of the activity.
13. Show concern and caution towards others who may be sick or injured.
14. Be a positive role model.
15. Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this code of behaviour.
16. Take care of equipment and facilities

Administrator Code of Behaviour

As an Administrator you must also meet the following requirements:

1. Resolve conflicts fairly and promptly through established procedures.
2. Maintain strict impartiality.
3. Be aware of your legal responsibilities

Official Code of Behaviour

As an Official you must also meet the following requirements:

1. Place the safety and welfare of the riders/participants above all else.
2. Accept responsibility for all actions taken.
3. Be impartial.
4. Avoid any situation which may lead to a conflict of interest.
5. Be courteous, respectful and open to discussion and interaction.
6. Value the individual in sport.

Coach Code of Behaviour

As a Coach you must meet the following requirements:

1. Do not tolerate acts of aggression.
2. Provide feedback to riders and other participants in a manner sensitive to their needs. Avoid overly negative feedback.

3. Recognise riders' rights to consult with other coaches and advisers.
Cooperate fully with other specialists (for example, sports scientists, doctors and physiotherapists).
4. Treat all riders fairly within the context of their sporting activities, regardless of gender, race, place of origin, athletic potential, colour, sexual orientation, religion, political beliefs, socio-economic status and other conditions.
5. Encourage and facilitate riders' independence and responsibility for their own behaviour, performance, decisions and actions.
6. Involve the riders in decisions that affect them.
7. Encourage riders to respect one another and to expect respect for their worth as individuals regardless of their level of riding.
8. Ensure that the tasks and/or training set are suitable for age, experience, ability, and physical and psychological conditions of the riders.
9. Ensure any physical contact with riders is appropriate to the situation and necessary for the rider's skill development.
10. Be acutely aware of the power that you as a coach develop with your riders in the coaching relationship and avoid any sexual intimacy with riders that could develop as a result.
11. Avoid situations with your riders that could be construed as compromising.
12. Actively discourage the use of performance enhancing drugs, and the use of alcohol, tobacco and illegal substances.
13. Do not exploit any coaching relationship to further personal, political or business interests at the expense of the best interest of your riders.
14. Accept and respect the role of officials in ensuring that competitions are conducted fairly and according to established rules.
15. Know and abide by rules, regulations and standards, and encourage riders to do likewise. Accept both the letter and the spirit of the rules.
16. Be honest and ensure that qualifications are not misrepresented.

Rider Code of Behaviour

As a rider you must meet the following requirements:

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of fellow riders, coaches, officials and spectators.
2. Do not tolerate acts of aggression.
3. Respect the talent, potential and development of fellow riders and competitors.
4. Care for and respect the equipment provided to you as part of your program.
5. Be frank and honest with your coach concerning illness and injury and your ability to train fully within the program requirements.
6. At all times avoid intimate relationships with your coach.
7. Conduct yourself in a professional manner relating to language, temper and punctuality.
8. Maintain high personal behaviour standards at all times.
9. Abide by the rules and respect the decision of the official, making all appeals through the formal process and respecting the final decision.

10. Be honest in your attitude and preparation for training. Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
11. Cooperate with coaches and staff in development of programs to adequately prepare you for competition at the highest level.

Parent/Guardian Code of Behaviour

As a parent/guardian of a rider you must meet the following requirements:

1. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of others.
2. Remember that your child participates in sport for their own enjoyment, not yours.
3. Focus on your child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
4. Never ridicule or yell at your child and other children for making a mistake or losing a competition.
5. Show appreciation for good performance and skilful plays by all riders.
6. Demonstrate a high degree of individual responsibility especially when dealing with or in the vicinity of persons under 18 years of age, as your words and actions are an example.
7. Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
8. Do not physically or verbally abuse or harass anyone associated with the sport (rider, coach, referee and so on).
9. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
10. Be a positive role model.
11. Understand the repercussions if you breach, or are aware of any breaches of, this code of behaviour.

Spectator Code of Behaviour

As a spectator you must meet the following requirements:

1. Respect the decisions of officials and teach young people to do the same.
2. Never ridicule or scold a young rider for making a mistake. Positive comments are motivational.
3. Condemn the use of violence in any form, whether it is by other spectators, coaches, officials or riders.
4. Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
5. Do not use violence, harassment or abuse in any form (that is, do not use foul language, sledge or harass riders, coaches, officials or other spectators).
6. Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.

Alcohol Policy

AMGA is committed to providing a safe sporting and working environment for every person involved in AMGA activities. This policy applies to any person who is engaged in any AMGA activity. Any detection of alcohol, that is not zero, is considered to be a positive test. Any one who tests positive before a heat commences may be tested 30 minutes later to confirm the test and to allow for discrepancies such as mouthwash. Any person who tests positive during a heat is to be removed from the arena.

Riding members

1. Consumption of alcohol is absolutely prohibited for any riding members who have not attained the legal drinking age. Consumption of alcohol by minors will result in immediate and automatic disqualification from the event.
2. Consumption of alcohol is not encouraged, but if consumed by riders of legal age should be discreet and with due regard to their responsibility to the AMGA and other participants.
3. All riders agree to submit to a breathalyser if requested to do so by the referee and if a breathalyser is available. Any rider who tests positive may return 30 minutes later and be re-tested. Any rider that then tests positive or refuses to submit to a breathalyser test will be immediately and automatically disqualified from the event.
4. Where a breathalyser is not available and it is in the opinion of the referee or organising committee that any rider is under the influence of alcohol at any time during an AMGA competition, the rider will be immediately and automatically disqualified from the competition. The referee or organising committee will make their decision based on duty of care.
5. Riding members representing their association at national and international events will comply with the above requirements and in addition comply with any additional requirements of the team coach/manager. This may include prohibition of alcohol prior to and during an event.
6. Riders competing at IMGA events should be familiar with the IMGA Breathalyser Policy.
7. Alcohol must not be consumed in the arena.

Team Coaches/Managers

1. Consumption of alcohol by team coaches/managers is not encouraged, but if it is consumed they should be discreet and with due regard to their responsibility to AMGA and their team.
2. Team coaches/managers must provide an example of behaviour that is accepted by AMGA.

3. Team coaches/managers who blow a positive reading may not enter the arena for the upcoming session or the next two sessions. They may coach from outside the arena.
4. Coaches/Managers participating at IMGA events should be familiar with the IMGA Breathalyser Policy.

Other Officials, Parents, Volunteers and Supporters

1. Consumption of alcohol at AMGA functions, activities or competitions is not encouraged. If persons do so, this should be done discreetly and with due regard to the safety and care of riders and horses and the comfort and safety of other persons present.
2. All officials, including referees, assistant referees and judges are required to test negative to a breath test whilst officiating in a competition.
3. All persons attending AMGA activities are encouraged to be positive role models for minors and junior members.
4. The provision of alcohol to minors is illegal and any adult providing alcohol to juniors will be requested to leave the venue immediately.

Responsible use of Social Media

Every member must be respectful of AMGA and each other and they must;

1. Be aware that publication of information and comment on social media carries the same obligations as any other kind of publication and should follow the same ethical and legal standards.
2. Not post, share or otherwise submit on social media any statement, material, information or image which is; malicious, misleading, threatening, derogatory, obscene, indecent, seditious, offensive, pornographic, abusive, disparaging, racist, discriminatory, menacing, inflammatory, blasphemous, intimidating or defamatory.
3. Not post, share or otherwise submit comments about sensitive business-related topics, such as AMGA's performance, or do anything to jeopardise AMGA's confidential information and intellectual property.
4. Not post, share or otherwise comment on social media statements, material, information or images concerning, or which could directly or indirectly damage the name, business interests or reputation of AMGA or any AMGA person.
5. Not disclose on any social media, any personal information or images relating to any other AMGA person that have been provided in confidence.

6. Only post comments about an AMGA person that are respectful and which the poster would say directly to that person.
7. Show proper respect for the laws governing copyright and fair use of copyrighted material. AMGA accepts no liability for legal breaches by AMGA people on social media.
8. Make it clear if disclosing their AMGA membership status in any way on social media that they are speaking on their own behalf and that their views do not represent those of AMGA
9. Not use social media in a way that breaches any other rules, codes and policies in the AMGA Constitution or any of its policy documents.