



POLICY DOCUMENT

LEADING HORSES

Purpose

To establish an effective safety protocol for event directors, event secretaries, event organisers, technical delegates, ground juries and head judges and all members of the ACDS.

Scope

This policy applies to all members of the ACDS and guests of the ACDS at Club, State and Federal level and applies to restrictions involving persons leading a horse at all sanctioned or non-sanctioned ACDS events or activities.

Policy

The ACDS shall maintain effective safety measures at all levels and this includes the leading of a horse. Event schedules/programmes/agendas are to consider the following information:

Federal Government Disability Discrimination Act 1992

28 Sport

- (1) It is unlawful for a person to discriminate against another person on the ground of the other person's disability by excluding that other person from a sporting activity.
- (2) In subsection (1), a reference to a sporting activity includes a reference to an administrative or coaching activity in relation to any sport.
- (3) *Subsection (1) does not render unlawful discrimination against a person:*
 - (a) *if the person is not reasonably capable of performing the actions reasonably required in relation to the sporting activity.*

States have similar Equal Opportunity or Anti-discrimination Acts, for example:

Victorian Equal Opportunity Act 2010

86 Protection of health, safety and property

- 1) *A person may discriminate against another person on the basis of disability or physical features if the discrimination is reasonably necessary –*
 - (a) *to protect the health or safety of any person (including the person discriminated against) or of the public generally; or*
 - (b) *to protect the property of any person (including the person discriminated against) or any public property.*

Procedures

A horse cannot be tied to or led by a person if they are inside of or in control of a:

- motor vehicle;
- horse drawn vehicle;
- wheelchair (including a motorised wheelchair);
- mobility scooter of any kind (including a kneel walker/scooter);
- walking frame (with or without wheels);
- mobility walker (with wheels);
- All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV) (motorised off-road vehicle);
- bicycle/scooter/tricycle (propelled by peddle/push or electric/motorised);
- pram;
- single or a pair of crutches;
- walking stick (including quad footed); or
- other such mobility aids.

Leading a horse from a ridden horse is to be discouraged.

Event Organisers must consider all of the above when conducting Risk Assessments of an event and should include such wording in their event schedule/programme/agenda:

A horse cannot be tied to or lead from a motor vehicle, a horse drawn vehicle, any form of mobility aid, pram, pushbike or motorised pushbike/tricycle.

Note: For the purposes of this policy, a horse means a horse, pony or donkey.