

**SPORTING HORSE AUSTRALIA INC**  
**CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY IN RELATION TO CHILD SAFETY 2017**

*This Code of conduct outlines appropriate standards of behaviour by adults towards children.*

*The Code of Conduct aims to protect children and reduce any opportunities for abuse or harm to occur it also helps volunteers by providing them with guidance on how to best support children and how to avoid or better manage difficult situations. All volunteers are required to comply.*

*The SHA and volunteers are responsible for promoting the safety and wellbeing of children and young people by:*

- adhering to our Child Safe policy
- taking all reasonable steps to protect children from abuse
- treating everyone with respect
- welcoming all children, their families and carers, and being inclusive
- respecting cultural differences
- modelling appropriate adult behaviour
- listening to children and responding to them appropriately
- reporting and acting on any breaches of the Code of Conduct complaints and concerns
- complying with our guidelines re appropriate physical contact with children  
Refer to our current Child Safety Policy plus OH & S Risk Assessment and Emergency Management Plan Document
- working with children in an open and transparent way- other adults should always know about the work you are doing with children
- respecting the privacy of children and their families and only disclosing information to people who have a need to know

*Written to demonstrate the strong commitment of the volunteers to child safety and to provide an outline of the policies and practices we have developed to keep everyone safe from any harm including abuse.*

## **SPORTING HORSE AUSTRALIA INC CHILD SAFETY POLICY 2017**

*This policy was written to demonstrate the strong commitment of the volunteers to child safety and to provide an outline of the policies and practices we have developed to keep everyone safe from any harm including abuse.*

### **Commitment to child safety**

All children who come to an SHA event have a right to feel safe and be safe. The welfare of the children who attend will be our first priority and we have a zero tolerance to child abuse. We aim to create a child safe and child friendly environment where children feel safe and have fun. This policy was developed by the SHA Committee.

### **Valuing diversity**

We value diversity & do not tolerate any discriminatory practices. To achieve this we:

- promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of all children and their families;
- promote the cultural safety, participation and empowerment of children from cultural and / or linguistically diverse backgrounds and their families;
- welcome children with a disability and their families and act to promote their participation;
- seek appropriate volunteers from all cultural backgrounds.

### **Recruiting volunteers**

The SHA seeks to attract and retain the best volunteers. We provide support and supervision so that people feel valued, respected and fairly treated. We have developed a Code of Conduct to provide guidance to our volunteers all of whom receive training on the requirements of the Code. We ask that all volunteers sign off on this document on arrival prior to commencement of duties on Show weekend.

### **Supporting Volunteers**

The SHA seeks to attract and retain the best volunteers. We provide support and supervision so that people feel valued, respected and fairly treated. We have developed a Code of Conduct to provide guidance to our volunteers all of whom receive training on the requirements of the Code. We ask that they sign off on that document.

### **Reporting a child safety concern or complaint**

The SHA committee will be responding to any complaints made by volunteers, general public, parents or children.

Appropriate action is then taken- Refer to the SHA current policies:

- Code of Conduct in relation to Child Safety;
- Lost child policy;
- Mandatory Incident Report;
- Risk & Consequences – specific Emergency Event : Child Safety

### **Risk Management**

We recognise the importance of a risk management approach to minimising the potential for child abuse or harm to occur and use this to form our policy, procedures and activity planning in addition to general occupational health and safety risks. We proactively manage risk of abuse to children who are our SHA full members or SHA Day members at SHA events .

**Reviewing this policy** - This policy will be reviewed over two years and we undertake to seek views, comments and suggestions from our volunteers and SHA members – parents and children.