

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR CARD SYSTEM:

A card system will be used to deter types of behaviour (Reportable Conduct) wherever occurring on the grounds and at any times during events.

"Reportable Conduct" includes types of behaviour which are cruel or abusive to horses including but not limited to inappropriate use of whips, handlers/riders witnessed striking a horse with a whip or other implement whether or not it leaves a mark, chasing horses with plastic or rattles, intimidating horses by threatening them with a whip or body language that causes them to run backwards, crouch, buckle at the knees, roll their eyes in fear, etcetera, yanking, chain abuse and mistreatment of horses, and also other behaviour by competitors and handlers and including but not limited to physical or verbal abuse of any Official, refusal to comply with the direction of any Official and any behaviour which may bring the event or good horsemanship into disrepute. Show Officials, Senior Stewards and Judges will be empowered to show either a Yellow Card or a Red Card to any person on the grounds for any act of Reportable Conduct observed by them or upon evidence given to them. The decision as to whether any act is Reportable Conduct shall be in the absolute discretion of the Official showing the card.

A Yellow Card is a first and only warning. Any person who infringes after having already received a Yellow Card at any time during the event shall be shown a Red Card whereupon they and their horse shall immediately be disqualified from the event and for all events for which they may have entered and shall forthwith be ejected from the grounds. The penalties applicable for the showing of a Red Card shall be in addition to any action The Arabian Horse Society of Australia Limited may take subsequently in respect of the Reportable Conduct.

Any Official who shows either a Yellow Card or a Red Card shall, as soon as is practicable thereafter, report the issue of such Card to the Committee giving particulars of the Reportable Conduct and the person to whom the Card was shown.

Where the horse is concerned, Cardable Offences will be specifically but not limited to:

- (1) Any horse who mouths to his handler like a foal does to an older horse; that handler shall have a Red Card and instant dismissal. This is not a normal horse reaction to a human and clearly denotes abuse.
- (2) Any handler who strikes his horse, especially on the front legs, shall have a Yellow Card.
- (3) If a horse buckles over or retracts their legs in fear, the handler will get a Yellow Card.
- (4) Any handler who delivers a full strength shank or excessively shanks a horse who is already standing still and has been standing still for the last few moments shall receive a Yellow Card. This is to be differentiated from reprimanding a horse who has just clearly misbehaved, i.e. won't stand still at all, is striking out etc.
- (5) If a horse makes a half rear at his handler with ears back and front legs extended forwards towards his handler, that handler will receive a Yellow Card. No horse does this without provocation. It is clearly differentiated from a vertical rear where the horse has his knees tucked; his ears forward and is just standing up in natural exuberance.
- (6) If a horse takes more than three (3) steps back from his handler at speed when the handler attempts to "pose" the horse, that handler will receive a Yellow Card.

The Judge and/or Steward and/or Show Official's discretion and decision will be final.