

GROUND USE + MEMBER RESPONSIBILITIES

Southside Pony Club is committed to ensuring that everyone involved in Pony Club is treated with respect and dignity and is protected from abuse, bullying, harassment, sexual misconduct, unlawful discrimination, victimisation and vilification.

Southside Pony Club members are required to adhere to a high standard of conduct and behaviour when on Club grounds and representing Southside Pony Club in any capacity. Members must behave in accordance with Pony Club Australia's Code of Conduct, Member Protection Policy and act within the values of Pony Club.

At Southside Pony Club, we have a zero tolerance towards negative behaviour or bullying.

Good behaviour is not optional, it is compulsory.

Purpose

The Southside Pony Club (SSPC) Ground Use and Responsibilities sets out the acceptable conduct, behaviours and responsibilities of Members, Parents and Legal Guardians whilst utilising SSPC grounds.

SSPC operates under Pony Club Australia's Code of Conduct, Pony Club Australia's National Integrity Framework and other policies including The National Integrity Framework, The Member Protection Policy, The Child Safeguarding Policy, The Competition Manipulation and Wagering Policy and The Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy.

This policy acts as an agreement for all Members, Parents, Legal Guardians and Supervising Adults and they acknowledge they have read, understood and agree by the SSPC Member Conduct and Responsibilities and Pony Club of Australia's policies and guidelines.

The grounds use and member responsibility guidelines are to be read in conjunction with the Member Conduct and Responsibilities policy.

General Rules

- All horses are privately owned or leased by Members. Unless in the case of emergency, it is not permitted to handle or ride another Member's horse without prior agreement from the Owner/Lessee, Parent or Legal Guardian or a member of the SSPC Management Committee.
- A Member may allow another Member to ride their horse with express permission of the Owner. If the Owner is a Junior Riding Member, permission must be given by their Parent or Legal Guardian.
- SSPC Grounds are available for SSPC Members for use with their own horse, unless authorised by Management Committee.
- All Members acknowledge the risks posed in horse activities and handling and all activities are conducted at their own risk.
- All gates are to be secured at all times.
- Manure is to be collected at all times. Members are to be considerate of others and to ensure common areas are clean and manure free.

- Dogs are permitted onsite in Agistment Area only however must be controlled or on leash and not permitted to roam grounds.

Rider Safety

- All horses are privately owned or leased by Members. Unless in the case of emergency, it is not permitted to handle or ride another Member's horse without prior agreement from the Owner/Lessee, Parent, Legal Guardian and/or a member of the SSPC Management Committee.
- All Members, Parents, Legal Guardians and Supervising Adults acknowledge the risks posed in horse activities and handling and all activities are conducted at their own risk.
- All Members, Parents, Legal Guardians and Supervising Adults must ensure all horses are handled and ridden in an appropriate and safe manner and in accordance with Pony Club Australia and Pony Club Queensland guidelines. It is encouraged that all Riding Members complete Pony Club Australia's Proficiency Certificates.
- All Members, Parents, Legal Guardians and Supervising Adults acknowledge appropriate safety equipment if handling or riding horses is required when on SSPC's grounds in accordance with Pony Club Australia National Gear Rules (latest version). Whilst using SSPC grounds, the following must be worn:
 - Riding boots and helmet when riding, noting safety vests must be worn on cross-country courses at all times.
 - Riding boots and/or safety footwear and helmet when lunging.
 - Riding boots and/or appropriate safe footwear when handling horses.
 - Helmets must comply with Pony Club Australia National Gear Rules (latest version) and must be structurally sound and chinstrap must be attached and used correctly.
- Riders must not use or hold electronic devices whilst on horseback.

Safety of Minors

- SSPC operates under Pony Club of Australia's commitment to Safeguarding children and young people- [Child Safeguarding | Pony Club Australia](#).
- All Members with Junior Riding Membership status must be supervised by a Parent or Legal Guardian who holds an active SSPC Membership whilst on SSPC grounds with the exception of Members who are fifteen years and older who are tending to the care of their horses in agistment areas.
- Supervision by a Parent or Legal Guardian of a Junior Riding Member includes direct and adequate supervision.
- The responsible Parent or Legal Guardian must ensure that the behaviour of the Junior Riding Member does not behave in a way that endangers the safety of any person, horse or equipment and that the Junior Riding Member adheres to the SSPC Member Conduct & Responsibilities and Pony Club Australia policies.
- A Junior Riding Member may be supervised by a Supervising Adult who is not a Parent or Legal Guardian. The Supervising Adult must be a Member over the age of 18 years and older (with prior approval from the Management Committee), a qualified Pony Club Queensland or Equestrian Australia Qualified Instructor. Supervising Adults may be required to produce a Working with Children Check.

General Rules of Riding

The following general rules must be obeyed in all areas of SSPC grounds:

- Watch where you are going.
- Avoid collisions.
- Before entering riding areas, be mindful of clearance.
- Be respectful to other Members currently using riding areas, particularly if private lessons are underway.

Riding Arenas and Areas

- Private lessons may utilise riding areas and must be booked in advance notice and must not exceed the booked time limit. Other Members must not use the riding areas when private lessons are being conducted.
- Show jumping for junior riders is permitted only with the presence of a Parent or Legal Guardian or Instructor who holds PCQ or EA accreditation. For adult riders, another responsible adult must be present. After using show jumping equipment, poles and cups must be placed on the ground.

- If a Member is Show Jumping, other Members may choose whether to enter the riding area, noting Members do not have the right to request jumping to cease in order that they may enter.
- Rochedale Cross Country Course is unavailable and not to be used under circumstances.
- Horses must not be left unattended in riding or common areas.
- Horses are not permitted to be loose in common areas, unless prior approval has been authorised by Management Committee for grazing purposes.
- Lunge yards are for lunging or riding purposes only and may only be used for one horse at a time. The lunge yards are not for storage of horses, unless prior approval from Management Committee.
- Manure must be collected in common and riding areas by Members after use.

Instructors

- Coaching is only allowed by parents of their own Junior Riding Members and qualified instructors with PCQ or EA accreditation, including those with NCAS Level 1 qualifications for jumping or cross-country disciplines.
- PCQ or EA Instructors coaching private lessons, outside of Musters or Official Events, must possess the necessary qualifications and insurance and/or have registered with PCQ as a coach outside of official PCA activities (*NCAS Preliminary & Level 1 Coaches' Registration Form to coach an up to date financial Riding Member of PCA, outside of usual PCA organised activities*).
- Prior to instruction, approval must be sought from the Management Committee via Member Portal and qualification and insurance documentation submitted.

Equipment

- SSPC may provide equestrian activity related equipment for Member use.
- Members must be responsible for safely utilising the equipment, maintaining and respecting all equipment.
- Members must return all equipment to storage facilities after use unless items are left out as part of training facilities.
- Damaged equipment must be reported to Club Secretary.

Agistment Paddocks

- Agistment paddocks are allocated by the SSPC Management Committee and agistment operates under the SSPC Agistment Agreement. Agistees must adhere to the Agistment Agreement terms and conditions.
- It is noted:
 - Agistment paddocks are for the sole use of the allocated Agistee and non-agisting member horses are not permitted in Agistee paddocks, unless approved by a Management Committee Member.
 - As at January 2025, the Morningside location is restricted to Morningside Agistees only.

Horse Welfare

- Horse welfare terms and conditions for Agisting Members are contained within the SSPC Agistment Agreement.
- For all horses attending SSPC Grounds, Members must ensure the minimum standards of horse care are observed in respect to horse care when riding or handling.
- Horses may not be left loose or unattended in common areas without prior approval from Management Committee.
- Horses should be tied in designated places only such as hitching rails or designated tie spots. Horses may not be tied to horse floats which are not secured to vehicles.
- A Member must not commit any act of animal cruelty to any horse. Cruelty includes, but is not limited to:
 - Excessive use of whips or spurs.
 - Use of whips around a horses head.
 - Making a demand of exercise beyond the capabilities or fitness of the horse.
 - Use of ill-fitting or broken tack or equipment which causes pain; or
 - The riding of a lame or injured horse.
- Members must act in accordance with Pony Club Australia's Hot Weather Guidelines [PCA-Hot-weather-2019-2.pdf](#)

- Members of the Management Committee reserve the right to instruct a Member to cease activities and report cruelty to the RSPCA or any relevant Government Agency.

Review

Review of this Policy is reviewed annually and when business changes occur, whichever is sooner.

Document Control

Revision	Date	Owner
	November 2025	SSPC Management Committee