AUSTRALIAN SIDE SADDLE COMMUNITY (ASSC)

EVENT PARTICIPATION POLICY

Purpose

The Australian Side Saddle Community (ASSC) is committed to providing welcoming, inclusive, educational and enjoyable opportunities for people interested in side saddle riding, horsemanship, history and the preservation of this traditional equestrian discipline.

Our events bring together participants, instructors, guest speakers, volunteers, supporters and equestrian enthusiasts from Australia and overseas.

This policy establishes the standards of conduct expected of everyone participating in ASSC-organised events and activities.

1. Respectful Conduct

All participants are expected to:

- Treat organisers, presenters, instructors, volunteers and fellow participants with courtesy and respect.
- Communicate in a constructive and considerate manner.
- Respect differing opinions, experiences, backgrounds and levels of knowledge.
- Refrain from bullying, harassment, intimidation, personal attacks or deliberately disruptive behaviour.

2. Appropriate Participation

Participants are expected to:

- Respect the purpose and structure of each event.
- Keep questions and discussions relevant to the subject being presented.
- Allow presenters and other participants the opportunity to contribute.
- Follow reasonable instructions provided by event organisers and hosts.
- Respect the time, expertise and professional contribution of guest speakers and instructors.

3. Harassment and Disruptive Behaviour

The ASSC does not accept behaviour that compromises the safety, enjoyment or educational experience of others.

This includes:

- Personal attacks or hostile communications.
- Intimidation, harassment or bullying.
- Deliberate disruption of presentations or discussions.
- Repeatedly disregarding reasonable instructions from event organisers.
- Using an ASSC event to pursue personal grievances or unrelated disputes.
- Behaviour intended to intimidate, undermine or prevent others from participating.

4. Privacy and Confidentiality

Participants are expected to respect the privacy of fellow attendees, guest speakers and organisers.

Personal contact details, private communications and information shared in confidence must not be disclosed or distributed without appropriate permission.

Participants must not record, photograph, screenshot, reproduce or redistribute presentations or other event materials without the necessary permission.

Any specific recording arrangements will be communicated before the event.

5. Guest Speakers and Presenters

The ASSC values the knowledge, experience and generosity of its guest speakers, instructors and presenters.

Participants are expected to:

- Treat presenters professionally and respectfully.
- Respect their time and expertise.
- Direct questions through the designated event channels where applicable.
- Avoid using presentations as a platform for personal disputes or unrelated grievances.

6. Organiser Authority

The ASSC event organisers reserve the right to take reasonable and proportionate action where participant conduct breaches this policy or compromises the proper running of an event.

Depending on the circumstances, this may include:

- Providing a verbal or written reminder of expected conduct.
- Redirecting inappropriate questions or discussions.
- Muting a participant in a virtual event.
- Asking a participant to cease inappropriate behaviour.
- Removing a participant from an event where justified.
- Reviewing eligibility for participation in future ASSC activities.

Any action will take account of the circumstances, seriousness of the conduct and applicable legal obligations.

7. Application

This policy applies to all ASSC-organised activities, including:

- Virtual MasterClasses and online presentations.
- Side saddle clinics and instructional events.
- Demonstrations and exhibitions.
- Social gatherings and educational activities.
- Other events organised or hosted by the ASSC.

Participation in ASSC activities indicates acceptance of the applicable event conditions and expectation of respectful conduct.

Our Commitment

The Australian Side Saddle Community exists to inform, support and connect people with an interest in side saddle.

We welcome people of all ages, backgrounds and experience levels who share an interest in learning, preserving and promoting this unique equestrian tradition.

Our aim is to ensure that every ASSC activity reflects the values of respect, education, inclusion and a shared appreciation of side saddle.

Australian Side Saddle Community
Preserving the art, history, and beauty of a bygone era through the timeless elegance of side saddle.