NATIONAL CUTTING HORSE ASSOCIATION Ltd.

CODE OF CONDUCT 1ST AUGUST 2023

This NCHA Ltd. Code of Conduct document outlines the principles, standards, and expectations that all members, participants, trainers, judges, officials, volunteers, and supporters of the National Cutting Horse Association Ltd of Australia (NCHA Ltd) are required to follow. It is designed to promote respect, fair play, sportsmanship, and a positive environment within our organisation. By adhering to this code, we can create a safe, inclusive, and enjoyable experience for everyone involved in the sport of Cutting.

1. **Respect and Fairness**

a) Treat all individuals with respect, regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, religion, or ability.
b) Avoid any form of discrimination, harassment, or bullying, both in the show arena, loping pen, and general grounds or where a sanctioned NCHA Ltd event and or meeting is being conducted.
c) Show appreciation for fellow competitors, judges, officials, staff, volunteers, and spectators irrespective of the outcome of competition or ruling.

2. **Sportsmanship and Integrity**

a) Compete with integrity, following the intent and rules and spirit of the event.
b) Accept victory with humility and defeat with grace, avoiding unsportsmanlike conduct or harassment.
c) Refrain from any behaviour that undermines the integrity of the sport including but not restricted to, doping and animal welfare conduct.

3. **Safety and Well-being**

a) Prioritize the safety and well-being of all participant and livestock during training, competition, and events.
b) Report any concerns regarding animal welfare and the safety or well-being of others to the appropriate authorities.
c) Follow all the guidelines and protocols provided by the NCHA Ltd to ensure a safe environment.

4. **Positive and Supportive**

a) Encourage a positive and supportive atmosphere for all members, competitors, and officials.
b) Provide constructive feedback and avoid public criticism that could harm an individual's confidence, morale, or integrity of the sport of Cutting.
c) Celebrate efforts and achievements, both big and small, to foster a culture of encouragement and motivation.

5. **Compliance with Policies and Regulations**

a) Comply with all policies and regulations set forth by the NCHA Ltd.
b) Familiarise yourself with the rules of Cutting and ensure you act and compete within the defined boundaries.
c) Adhere to the guidelines regarding eligibility, registration, and qualification for competitions and events.

6. Spectators/Parents

a) Accept and respect the policies and rules of the NCHA Ltd, and its Affiliate committees while attending an event. Do not abuse, threaten, or intimidate, use crude language, or show unnecessary obvious dissension, displeasure, or disapproval towards an official, member or event volunteers.

b) At all times comply with any condition of entry and follow the directions of committee representatives and /or other duty officials.

7. Alcohol, Drugs, and Substance Abuse

a) Refrain from consuming alcohol or using illegal substances during training sessions, competitions, and official events.
b) If consuming alcohol at a NCHA Ltd event or approved affiliated NCHA event, do so responsibly and in a respectable manner.
c) Avoid any behaviour that may compromise your ability to perform safely and effectively.
d) Abide by rules and regulations set out in NCHA Ltd Rule Book for alcohol within the competition arena and loping areas.

8. Social Media and Public Communication

a) Exercise caution and responsibility when using social media, avoiding offensive, harmful, or defamatory content.
b) Refrain from making public statements on behalf of the NCHA Ltd without proper authorisation.

9. Reporting Violations

a) Report any breaches of this Code of Conduct to the designated authorities with the NCHA Ltd.
b) Cooperate with any investigations related to alleged violations.
c) It is encouraged to report breaches of the NCHA Ltd Code of Conduct in a written format by either email or written letter, stating persons involved and events that occurred. Complaints can be addressed to the NCHA Ltd Board of Directors, whereby an Investigating Officer may be appointed and in the case of an Affiliated events to an office bearer of the Affiliate.

Consequences of Violation

Violation of this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action, which can include warnings, fines, suspensions, or in severe cases, expulsion from The NCHA Ltd. The severity of the sanction will depend on the nature and frequency of the violation.

Acknowledgement

By participating in any capacity with the NCHA Ltd, you acknowledge that you have read, understood, and agreed to abide by this Code of Conduct. Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may lead to disciplinary action.