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2016 AGM Review of ATHRA Code of Conduct and the ATHRA Constitution

Note: Text highlighted in yellow is the proposed new rule – text in green is the current rule.

The rationale for each of the recommended changes of the Code of Conduct appears in red text.

CODE OF CONDUCT

New Rule 3.29

3.29 In any situation where a stallion or any other horse is behaving in a manner likely to cause injury to riders, horses or property, the Trail Boss has the responsibility to minimise or eliminate the risk of injury by the separation or removal of the offending equine from the ride or event. In any such case, an Incident Report is to be completed and the club shall take action to ensure that the horse is excluded from further participation on ATHRA sanctioned events, until such time they are satisfied, appropriate behaviour/control has been restored or achieved.

This is introduced as a result of an incident on a recent club ride to provide guidance to Trail Bosses and clubs regarding their responsibilities and authority to isolate or remove a horse.

Changes to numerical sequence of rules 3.29 to 3.33

Current rule 3.29 shall change numerically to 3.30, and each subsequent rule (to and including 3.33) shall change in numerical sequence.

Charity Rides

7.1 Where a club holds a fund raising trail ride for charity, which is open to non ATHRA members and/or is expected to have 50 or more participants, the following procedure must be adhered to.

Amend Rule 7.1 to read

7.1 Where a club holds a fund raising trail ride for charity, regardless of the membership status of participants, the following procedure must be adhered to. Note the approval process does not apply to a club holding a fund raising trail ride or event which is restricted to 50 or under participants of their club members only.

This is a reversion back to the original intent of the rule. The current wording has caused confusion as it implies that a Charity Ride which has less than 50 participants is not required to be approved as ATHRA sanctioned. The revised wording allows clubs to hold fund raising events which are restricted to 50 or under members of their own club without ATHRA approval.

Special Events

8.1 A Special Event is defined as any ATHRA affiliated club sanctioned event other than a Trail Ride, Charity Trail Ride (refer Rule 7 of this Code of Conduct), Trail Ride Challenge or Education Day. Note that a club Education Day which involves payment of a fee to an instructor is classified as a Special Event.

Amend Rule 8.1 to read

8.1 A Special Event is defined as any ATHRA affiliated club sanctioned event other than a Trail Ride, Charity Trail Ride (refer Rule 7 of this Code of Conduct), Trail Ride Challenge or Education Day. Note that a club Education Day which involves payment of a fee to an instructor is classified as a Special Event, (refer to Rule 8.5). Reimbursement of reasonable out of pocket expenses to an instructor volunteering their services shall not be regarded as being the payment of a fee.

The clarification of this rule is the result of confusion and numerous enquiries regarding same.

New Rule 8.5

Introduce new rule 8.5 to provide further advice on procedures regarding a paid instructor.

8.5 In the case of an Education Day, Horsemanship Clinic or similar event involving payment of a fee to an instructor the application must contain full details of the commercial arrangements with the instructor, and a copy of the instructor's insurance Certificate of Currency.

This provision is included in the Code to help clubs differentiate between an instructor or trainer volunteering their services, (and receiving reimbursement for expenses), and an instructor or trainer being paid and providing services on a commercial basis. The implications from an insurance perspective are quite different.

Amendment of subsequent Rule numbers in sequential order after new Rule 8.5

Current Rule 8.5 shall be renumbered 8.6 and each subsequent sub rule in Rule 8 shall be amended in sequential order in the same manner. (I.e. current Rule 8.17 will become Rule 8.18.)

The number of each rule following rule 8.5 must be altered (as a result of the introduction of new rule 8.5) so that they are in numerical sequence.

Prospective Members

9.3 Past ATHRA members are regarded as prospective members under this rule.

Amend rule 9.3 to read

9.3 Past ATHRA members are not eligible as Prospective Members under this rule.

The intent of the Prospective Member rules is to provide suitable opportunity for *new members* to gauge if ATHRA trail riding suits them. Some past members habitually participate in annual rides or events as Day Members, without ever intending to join as a full member, thereby obtaining a benefit of reduced fees not available to financial members. The Board feels that any previous experience as past members should enable a "past member" to make a decision to renew membership or otherwise.

9.6 An administration fee per ride applies to each Prospective Member. These fees shall be forwarded to ATHRA on a quarterly basis.

Amend Rule 9.6 to read

9.6 An administration/insurance fee per ride applies to each Prospective Member. These fees shall be forwarded to ATHRA within 4 weeks of the event. If a Prospective Member applies for full ATHRA membership within seven (7) days of riding as a Prospective Member, their ATHRA membership fee shall be reduced by the amount of the administration/insurance fee paid.

Some clubs have been taking more than 6 months to forward monies received from Prospective Members to ATHRA. Some clubs are known to have “forgotten” to forward such fees, and it is hoped the 4 week period will help alleviate problem. **The 4 week period already applies to Rule 7.13 and 8.13.**

The new provision allowing Day Membership fees to be converted as payment towards fees due by new members is proposed in the hope that it will increase Day Membership conversions to full memberships. Some clubs already convert Day Memberships to full memberships on the day of a ride or event, and this is regarded as an official extension of that practice.

CONSTITUTION

Interpretation

Rule 1. (11) In writing means written, email or printed or partly written and partly printed.

Amend Rule 1. (11) to read

1. (11) In writing means written, electronic (data entry/email), printed or partly written and partly printed.

Rationale

This is proposed so that all data entered into the ATHRA website comes within the definition of “*in writing*”. (E.g. the Membership Data Base, the Accreditation Register, Club web pages and similar). It will also facilitate the implementation of online membership applications, club affiliations, and other online applications which may become available and applicable to the ATHRA organisation into the future. Modern technology is constantly being revised and improved and the use of phone apps and online technology by future generations of ATHRA members will be the norm, rather than the exception. The aim is to facilitate any future decisions to implement modern technology, and to enable ATHRA to respond and act appropriately.