



PONY CLUB
AUSTRALIA

PONY CLUB ALCOHOL POLICY

UPDATED: JUL 2026
REVIEW DATE: JUL 2030
COMMENCEMENT DATE: JUL 2026



PONY CLUB
NORTHERN TERRITORY



PONY CLUB
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



PONY CLUB
SOUTH AUSTRALIA



PONY CLUB
TASMANIA



PONY CLUB
VICTORIA



PONY CLUB
NEW SOUTH WALES



PONY CLUB
QUEENSLAND

ALCOHOL

1. POLICY INTENT

Pony Club® has a zero-tolerance policy to harm, abuse, neglect of a child/young person or violence in any form. Alcohol is a drug which when abused can lead to behaviour which compromises the safety of participants through inappropriate and/or violent behaviour.

Participation in Pony Club encourages young people to pursue healthier lifestyle choices in order to improve their horse sport pursuits and personal performance. Pony Club wishes to promote healthy attitudes to alcohol use and support a social, family friendly environment which builds friendships and great memories.

This Policy seeks to promote a culture of safe alcohol use in Pony Club and ensure that everyone involved in our Pony Club® is aware of acceptable standards of behaviour expected of those involved in Pony Club and the behaviours that are not acceptable (Prohibited Conduct).

2. DEFINITIONS

In this Policy the following words have the corresponding meaning:

- 2.1. **Active competition** means from the time an event official begins, gear check or trot up and until the final rider has completed their competition for the day.
- 2.2. **Activity** means a Pony Club® competition, event, or activity (including training), whether on a one-off basis or as part of a series, league, or competition, sanctioned or organised by Pony Club Australia or a Pony Club® Organisation.
- 2.3. **Affiliate** means a member of a Member Organisation including (as applicable) clubs, zones and states.
- 2.4. **Authorised Provider** means any non-Pony Club® Organisation authorised to conduct an Activity.
- 2.5. **Alcohol Policy** means this Alcohol Policy.
- 2.6. **Member Organisation** means a sporting organisation that is a member of Pony Club Australia or its Member States in accordance with the provisions of the Pony Club Australia Constitution.
- 2.7. **National Integrity Framework** means the set of “National Integrity Framework” integrity policies produced by Sport Integrity Australia from time to time if and as adopted by Pony Club Australia.
- 2.8. **Official duties** means undertaking your role as a representative of the organisation or whilst leading or caring for a team.
- 2.9. **Official role** means any relevant person who is helping in any way to conduct, assist, adjudicate or run any part of an activity.
- 2.10. **Pony Club Australia** means Pony Club Australia Ltd
- 2.11. **Participant** means:
 - (a) Riders who are registered with a Pony Club® Organisation or entitled to participate in an Activity;
 - (b) Coaches appointed to train a rider or team in an Activity;

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- (c) Administrators who have a role in the administration or operation of a Pony Club® Organisation, including owners, directors, committee members or other persons;
 - (d) Officials including judges, technical delegates, or other officials appointed by a Pony Club® Organisation or any event, competition, series, club or team sanctioned by a Pony Club® Organisation;
 - (e) Support personnel who are appointed in a professional or voluntary capacity by a Pony Club® Organisation or any competition, series, club or team sanctioned by a Pony Club® Organisation including team managers, agents, selectors, and team staff members; and
 - (f) Parents/carers and spectators who are subject to registration conditions or venue conditions of entry that requires compliance with this Policy.

2.12. **Prohibited Conduct** means the conduct prescribe at clause 4 of this policy.

2.13. **Relevant Organisation** means any of the following organisations:

- (a) A Pony Club® Organisation;
- (b) An Authorised Provider;
- (c) A team, which means any collection or squad of riders who compete and/or train in Pony Club®; and
- (d) Any other organisation that has agreed to be bound by this Policy.

2.14. **Relevant Person** means any of the following individuals:

- (a) An individual registered as a member of a Pony Club® Organisation;
- (b) A Participant;
- (c) An employee employed by Pony Club Australia, a Pony Club® Organisation or an Authorised Provider;
- (d) A contractor engaged directly or via an organisation to provide services for or on behalf of Pony Club Australia, a Pony Club® Organisation or an Authorised Provider;
- (e) A volunteer engaged by Pony Club Australia, a Pony Club® Organisation or an Authorised Provider in any capacity who is not otherwise an employee or contractor, including directors and office holders, officials, administrators and team and support personnel; and
- (f) Any other individual who has agreed to be bound by this Policy.

2.15. A reference to **Pony Club®** means collectively Pony Club Australia, Member Organisations and Affiliates.

2.16. **Pony Club® Organisation** means Pony Club Australia and each Member Organisation or Affiliate organisation required through association to promulgate and enforce national policy.

2.17. **Pony Club® camp** means an activity where children are taken away overnight and adults are present to supervise the children on camp.

3. JURISDICTION

3.1. To whom this policy applies

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- (a) This policy applies to:
 - i. Relevant Persons; and
 - ii. Relevant Organisations.

3.2. When this policy applies

- (a) All Relevant Persons and Relevant Organisations to which this policy applies must comply with this policy, while they are a Relevant Person or Relevant Organisation.

4. PROHIBITED CONDUCT

4.1. Prohibited Conduct of **Relevant Person**

- (a) A Relevant Person commits a breach of this Policy when they:
 - i. Consume alcohol whilst under the age of 18yrs at any Pony Club® activity.
 - ii. Provide alcohol to any person under the age of 18yrs at any Pony Club® activity.
 - iii. Consume alcohol whilst undertaking an official role with Pony Club® which requires the supervision of children and/or young people under the age of 18yrs.
 - iv. Consume alcohol at Pony Club activities which cater for riders under the age of 18yrs, whilst active competition is being conducted.
 - v. Consume alcohol whilst attending either as an official or supporting adult a Pony Club camp catering for relevant participants under the age of 18yrs.
 - vi. Due to alcohol consumption behave in a manner which causes discomfort to others or requires intervention from Pony Club officials, security, police and/or other emergency services.

4.2. Prohibited Conduct of **Relevant Participant**

- (a) A Relevant Participant commits a breach of this Policy when they:
 - i. Consume alcohol whilst under the age of 18yrs at any Pony Club® activity.
 - ii. Ride at any Pony Club® activity when under the influence of alcohol, all riders when competing at a Pony Club® activity must have a blood alcohol reading of 0.00.
 - iii. Undertake an official role at any Pony Club® activity when under the influence of alcohol, all officials when undertaking their role at a Pony Club® activity must have a blood alcohol reading of 0.00.
 - iv. Consume alcohol whilst attending either as an official or supporting adult a Pony Club camp catering for relevant participants under the age of 18yrs.
 - v. Due to alcohol consumption behave in a manner which causes discomfort to others or requires intervention from Pony Club officials, security, police and/or other emergency services.

4.3. Prohibited Conduct of **Relevant Participants on International Teams**

- (a) A Relevant Participant commits a breach of this Policy when they:
 - i. Consume alcohol whilst under the age of 18yrs.

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- ii. Consume alcohol 48hrs before the day they are competing or at any time during the riding phase of competition when representing Australia on an International Team.
 - iii. Ride when under the influence of alcohol, all riders when representing Pony Club Australia are required to have a 0.00 blood alcohol reading.
 - iv. Consume alcohol as a Pony Club Australia Team Coach or Manager when supervising relevant persons under the age of 18yrs, or during active duties.
 - v. Do not have a blood alcohol reading of 0.00 when undertaking their official duties as the Team Manager or Team Coach of an International Team.
 - vi. Due to alcohol consumption behave in a manner which causes discomfort to others, brings the organisation into disrepute or requires intervention from Pony Club officials, security, police and/or other emergency services.

4.4. Prohibited Conduct of **Relevant Organisations**

- (a) A Relevant Organisation commits a breach of this Policy when they:
 - i. Serve alcohol at Pony Club® activities which cater for riders under that age of 18yrs, during active competition.
 - ii. Allow alcohol to be consumed by any relevant participant or person at a Pony Club® camp where riders under the age of 18yrs are attending.
 - iii. Allow relevant participants to compete at a Pony Club® activity when they know the individual has consumed alcohol prior to the day of competition and has a blood alcohol of reading of above 0.00.
 - iv. Allow relevant participants to undertake official roles at Pony Club when under the influence of alcohol.
 - v. Allow alcohol to be consumed by any adult whilst on a Pony Club camp which caters for relevant participants under the age of 18yrs.
 - vi. Do not comply with the **Safe Service of Alcohol at Pony Club** in Appendix A.
 - vii. Do not comply with Liquor laws and licensing requirements within their state.

5. REPORTING & COMPLAINTS

- 5.1. Allegations of Prohibited Conduct under this Policy should be submitted to Pony Club Australia.
- 5.2. Allegations of Prohibited Conduct under this Policy will be managed in accordance with clause 5.2 of the Pony Club Australia Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy.

6. RELATED POLICY, LAWS & RESOURCES

- 6.1. Policies
 - (a) Safeguarding Children and Young People
- 6.2. Legislation
 - (a) [Queensland Liquor Legislation – Liquor Act 1992](#)
 - (b) [New South Wales Liquor Legislation – Liquor Act 2007](#)

- (c) [Australian Capital Territory Liquor Legislation – Liquor Act 2010](#)
- (d) [Victorian Liquor Legislation – Liquor Control Reform Act 1998](#)
- (e) [Tasmania Liquor Legislation – Liquor Licensing Act 1990](#)
- (f) [South Australian Liquor Legislation – Liquor Licensing Act 1997](#)
- (g) [Western Australia Liquor Legislation – Liquor Control Act 1988](#)
- (h) [Northern Territory Liquor Legislation – Liquor Act 2019](#)

6.3. Liquor Guidelines & Information

- (a) QLD - [Business Queensland – Liquor Guidelines](#)
- (b) NSW - [NSW Liquor & Gaming](#)
- (c) ACT – [Access Canberra – Hospitality, liquor and gaming](#)
- (d) VIC – [Liquor legislation and regulations | vic.gov.au \(www.vic.gov.au\)](#)
- (e) TAS – [Tasmania Government – Liquor and Gaming](#)
- (f) SA – [South Australian Government – Liquor, Gambling & Lotteries](#)
- (g) WA – [Western Australian Government – Liquor Licensing](#)
- (h) NT – [NT Government – Liquor and Hospitality](#)
- (i) [Alcohol laws in Australia](#)
- (j) [Liquor licensing laws for clubs - Good Sports](#)
- (k) [Home - DrinkWise](#)

7. VERSION CONTROL TABLE

VERSION NO.	DATE	NOTES
V01_2207	1 JULY 2022	Responsible Service of Alcohol First version of the policy, adopted
V01_2607	1 JULY 2026	Amended and extended version of the alcohol policy

APPENDIX A – SAFE SERVICE OF ALCOHOL AT PONY CLUB

Pony Club Australia aims to provide a safe, fun and enjoyable environment for children and young people to learn to ride and care for horses. Alcohol can create environments which are frightening, abusive or violent and reduce the enjoyment of everyone.

Pony Club Australia aims to promote a healthy environment and positive modelling to our members and therefore believes alcohol use at events particularly events involving children/young people should be limited, controlled or not be a part of our activities.

Pony Club and event organisers are encouraged to provide alcohol-free social events for young people and families and discourage consumption of alcohol at events/activities with participants under the age of 18yrs.

Pony Club should never endorse or support events, celebrations or activities that involve excessive consumption of alcohol.

Serving Alcohol

Service of alcohol means the organiser of an event is supplying or allowing alcohol to be consumed at an event/activity. If alcohol is allowed at your event/activity your organisation will:

- Comply with the requirements of liquor licencing in your state and in accordance with the safety and wellbeing of everyone in attendance.
- Prominently display a liquor licence (if required).
- Display posters relating to responsible alcohol service, standard drink sizes and the effects of alcohol abuse.
- Ensure only trained servers are permitted to serve alcohol; servers will not be permitted to drink while serving alcohol.
- Not encourage or allow excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol.
- Not permit a person aged under 18 to be served or consume alcohol.
- Not serve alcohol at a junior event while active competition is underway, (Ie. Run a bar at an event with junior members)
- Request adult supporters to not consume alcohol during active competitions.
- Require adult riders to not consume alcohol before on or on the day of riding.
- Exercise their right to ask someone to leave or refuse entry to someone who has or is causing discomfort to other people at the event.

Intoxicated individuals

If alcohol is allowed at your event/activity your organisation will:

- Not continue to serve any person who is intoxicated. Signs of intoxication include slurred speech, impaired balance, poor coordination, reduced inhibition, aggressive, belligerent and disrespectful behaviour.
- Follow procedures, provided in their Responsible Service of Alcohol training for dealing with and refusing alcohol to intoxicated individuals.
- Ensure safe travel options are suggested or provided for intoxicated people, if possible.

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- Require intoxicated people to leave an event/activity.
 - Call the police or emergency services if an intoxicated person is posing a threat to others or themselves.

Underage drinking

If alcohol is allowed at your event/activity your organisation will:

- Not serve alcohol to people under 18yrs.
- Ensure staff/servers request ID of any person who does not appear to be over the age of 18yrs.

Safe transport

If alcohol is allowed at your event/activity your organisation will:

- Prominently display taxi phone numbers in the venue.
- Encourage intoxicated people to take safe transport home.
- Actively promote a designated driver program.

Food and other drinks

If alcohol is allowed at your event/activity your organisation will:

- Serve food when alcohol is served, a range of snacks and/or meals must be available.
- Provide a selection of low-alcohol and alcohol-free drinks, such as fruit juice, soft drink, tea or coffee.
- Provide free water at all times when serving alcohol.

Promoting the responsible use of alcohol

If alcohol is allowed at your event/activity your organisation will:

- Prominently display posters about responsible drinking and standard drinks measures.
- Not advertise, promote or serve alcohol at events or activities where participants are under the age of 18yrs whilst competition is underway.
- Educate members and supporters about our alcohol policy through our website, newsletter and other club communication.

What is a standard drink?

In Australia, a standard drink refers to a drink that contains 10 grams of alcohol. Below are examples of some product types, alcohol volumes and standard drink measurements.

						
30mL Shot (40%)	375mL RTD can (5.0%)	275mL RTD bottle (4.6%)	150mL Glass of red wine (13.5%)	150mL Glass of white wine (11.5%)	750mL Bottle of red wine (13.5%)	750mL Bottle of white wine (11.5%)
STANDARD DRINKS 1.0	STANDARD DRINKS 1.5	STANDARD DRINKS 1.0	STANDARD DRINKS 1.6	STANDARD DRINKS 1.4	STANDARD DRINKS 8.0	STANDARD DRINKS 6.8
APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX
						
100mL Glass of parkling wine (13%)	375mL Stubby of light strength beer (2.4%)	375mL Stubby of mid strength beer (3.5%)	375mL Stubby of full strength beer (4.8%)	285mL Pot/middy of light strength beer (2.7%)	285mL Pot/middy of mid strength beer (3.5%)	285mL Pot/middy of full strength beer (4.8%)
STANDARD DRINKS 1.0	STANDARD DRINKS 0.7	STANDARD DRINKS 1.0	STANDARD DRINKS 1.4	STANDARD DRINKS 0.6	STANDARD DRINKS 0.8	STANDARD DRINKS 1.1
APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX
						
425mL hooner of light strength beer (2.7%)	425mL Schooner of mid strength beer (3.5%)	425mL Schooner of full strength beer (4.8%)	570mL Pint of light strength beer (2.7%)	570mL Pint of mid strength beer (3.5%)	570mL Schooner of full strength beer (4.8%)	
STANDARD DRINKS 1.0	STANDARD DRINKS 1.2	STANDARD DRINKS 1.6	STANDARD DRINKS 1.2	STANDARD DRINKS 1.6	STANDARD DRINKS 2.2	
APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	APPROX	

DrinkWise.org.au

Calculations confirmed by the Australian Wine Research Institute.

NHMR C

BUILDING
A HEALTHY
AUSTRALIA



Australian Government
National Health and
Medical Research Council

Alcohol Guidelines

Australian guidelines to reduce
health risks from drinking alcohol

1: HEALTHY ADULTS

Drink no more than
10 standard drinks a **week**



AND

no more than 4 standard drinks
on **any one day**



to reduce the risk of harm from alcohol.

The less you drink, the lower
your risk of harm.

2: CHILDREN AND PEOPLE UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE

Should not drink alcohol



to reduce the risk of harm from alcohol.

3: WOMEN WHO ARE PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING

Should not drink alcohol



to prevent harm from alcohol
to their unborn child or baby.



How Alcohol Affects **Athletic Performance**

The combination of effects can inhibit athletes from working out or participating in athletic events and can even increase the risk of injury.

- Muscles and Bones
- Hydration
- Metabolism and Nutrition
- Neurological
- Recovery