

NSW MTA

CODES OF

CONDUCT/BEHAVIOUR

Executive Meeting GOAL: To ratify, as a BI-LAW, a revised Code of Conduct Policy Document which can be issued when receipting Association Membership Levy Payment (\$20) to each individual member of the Association. The guidelines are a reminder about respectful behaviour and individual responsibilities

NOTE: This Policy Document should be used in conjunction with Section 4 of the NSW MTA Handbook, titled Governance – Policies and Procedures, especially 4.1 Disciplinary Procedures and Complaints Handling, (adopted as part of the New Constitution in September 2017)

NSW MTA MISSION STATEMENTS FOR ALL MEMBERS

- **To foster the sport of Mini Trotting for children between the ages of 5 to 17**
- **To promote friendly competition, in an atmosphere of co-operation and good sportsmanship, encouraging social interaction for all concerned**
- **To provide opportunities for children to participate in equine courses to enhance horsemanship and life skills**

CODE OF BEHAVIOUR GUIDELINES

AND GENERAL PRINCIPLES

NSW MINI TROTTING – FOR ADULTS

Welcome to the NSW MTA and thank you for supporting your child. Parents, caregivers and community participants play a significant role in the motivation and development of young people.

Due to the regularity of contact and the influence parents and care givers have as **ROLE MODELS** for young people, they particularly have an opportunity to **SHARE THE BEHAVIOURS, ENTHUSIASM AND RESPECT** young people demonstrate in their sporting endeavours.

Please find below some suggestions that might **ENHANCE THE ENJOYMENT** of all those involved in Mini Trotting:-

- 1 **Enjoy the journey**
 - Sport is a journey that provides physical, social and emotional benefits for children. Enjoyment and having fun with friends is their greatest reward. You also share in this enjoyment.
- 2 It's better if the first question you ask your child is "did you enjoy it?" rather than "did you win?"
 - Not every child is going to become a champion but every child has the opportunity to continue enjoying sport through coaching, managing or supporting.
- 3 Model good behaviours and never accept poor sportsmanship from your child
 - Children learn more by seeing than hearing, particularly from people they care about. No matter what the circumstances, be someone they can admire and respect
 - Parents aren't judged on their child's accomplishments; however parents are often held responsible for their child's behaviour
- 4 Your child's results should not affect your mood
 - Never get upset after an event where results don't go the way of your child
- 5 Give your child space to grow and mature
 - All children are different. Accept your child for who they are. Fault finding makes the child question their self-worth. Letting a child know how much you care about them makes them proud and builds resilience
- 6 Focus on the processes rather than the outcomes

- Parents should understand that the best athletes focus on the process, because the result is often out of their control
- 7 **Avoid going over the top about your child's talent**
- Every sport has talented athletes, but for various reasons they do not always reach the pinnacle
- 8 **Encourage good attitudes**
- Good attitudes carry over into all aspects of life
- 9 **Support Club Office Bearers and Event Officials, especially in public and in front of your child**
- It there is a disagreement, settle it privately
 - Negatively discussing other parents in front of your child can be detrimental
 - No matter how private conversations are, they can become public very easily
- 10 **Build good relationships with other parents**
- Parents of your children's friends will often become your friends
- 11 **You should not compare your child's journey to another child's journey**
- Children mature at different rates. All children are different. Try to understand your child's views of the world around them
- 12 **If your child makes mistakes, let them experience the consequences of their actions**
- This is how they learn and grow and become independent, resourceful and confident
 - Set-backs and failures are opportunities for improvement. Explain to your child that continued effort, practice and learning are the keys to success
- 13 **Recognise that your child's results don't define you**
- Your child's success or disappointment does not change other parents' views of you
- 14 **Develop your child's strengths**
- Help your child to identify their strengths and develop them. These children experience success, become inspired, confident and resilient
- 15 **Ensure any use of social media about Mini Trotting Events and their participants, whether as drivers or officials, is responsible and appropriate**
- 16 **Everyone has a responsibility to ensure fair play and positive involvement in the sport of Mini Trotting**
- 17 **All NSW MTA sporting events are alcohol and smoke free zones**

NSW MTA CODE OF BEHAVIOUR FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS

YOUNG PARTICIPANTS CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

- 1 Behave in a sporting manner at all times to all participants including officials and spectators
- 2 Strive for personal excellence
- 3 Abide by the rules at all times
- 4 Treat all participants as you enjoy being treated yourself
- 5 Put your value on honest effort, skill performance and improvement
- 6 Abide by the Mission Statement of Mini Trotting = *“Participate in friendly competition, in an atmosphere of co-operation and good sportsmanship, encouraging social interaction for all concerned”*
- 7 Don't make detrimental statements about other participants or officials, verbally or on social media platforms
- 8 Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every participant, regardless of their gender, ability or cultural background
- 9 Make your goal to have fun and improve your skills