

Pony Club NSW currently has over 16,000 members making us one of the largest state sporting associations in Australia.

PCA NSW has developed a code of conduct that sets out the principles and expectations that are considered binding on any person who is a member of a PCA NSW.

The Code of Conduct and Policy Handbook can be accessed via

<http://www.pcansw.org.au/site/ponyclub/nsw/downloads/Policies/Code%20of%20Conduct%20and%20Policy%20Handbook.pdf>

The purpose of the handbook is to set out clearly the Association's minimum standards of behaviour and position on important issues. It should be noted that the contents of the publication is by no means exhaustive.

The following additional words have been compiled to assist members, parents, coaches, instructors and pony club executives apply the code of conduct principles to the fast growing and newest phenomenon of this modern era – social media.

With the rapid growth of open social media sites such as Facebook, Twitter, MySpace and YouTube, information about people and events on these sites is readily available to anyone with internet access.

People are now saying things on social network sites that were formerly only said in private. However such 'private' conversations are now public and could be distributed to others.

There are no written rules or laws to use social networks, except of course that you don't abuse or spam others. Here are six principles that everyone should remember and adhere to when using social networks as pony club members.

1. Be **respectful**. Don't say anything on facebook etc. that you would not say in person.
2. Take **responsibility** to ensure that any posts are factually correct and accurate and do not breach confidentiality.
3. Show **respect** for the people you interact with. Be a good sport and treat them as you would like to be treated.
4. **Rub out** or delete "friends" who are abusive and intrusive - you don't have to inform them, and they will not know until they try to write on your wall or see your profile.
5. **Respect** the rights, dignity and worth of all regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
6. **Report** to the appropriate authorities anyone who harasses you or forces you to friend them.