



**EQUESTRIAN SPORTS**  
**NEW ZEALAND**

## ESNZ Officials' Code of Conduct

As an Official I undertake to respect all ESNZ and FEI Rules and Regulations, and all ESNZ General and Discipline specific Rules, Regulations and Policies at all times, found at [Rules & Regulations | ESNZ \(nzequestrian.org.nz\)](https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz).

I am aware that I am a representative of Equestrian Sports New Zealand while officiating at any ESNZ Event (hereinafter the "Event/s"). I am also conscious of my role as an authority and of the associated obligation to have adequate knowledge of the principles of equestrian sport and the relevant Rules and Regulations, and to apply them at all times in a fair and consistent way.

I will fulfil all the requirements of being an Official (including maintaining the necessary qualification) relevant to each Event to which I am appointed.

While I am officiating:

- I will act in an appropriate and respectful manner towards humans and animals, paying constant attention to their safety and I will carry out all duties in a professional manner.
- I will refrain from consuming alcohol, and I will not use any substances and/or medications that would impair my judgement.
- I will not compete in the competition in which I am officiating, if that would give rise to a conflict of interest.
- I will be willing to answer the questions of stakeholders (including but not limited to Athletes, Owners and Trainers, Organisers, Grooms and my colleagues). I will take the time to politely and objectively explain my decisions where possible.
- I will be familiar with all the relevant Rules and Regulations and will be well prepared for every Event.
- I will cooperate with the Organiser of the Event and with my colleagues.
- I will be punctual and dress appropriately.
- I will not act alone.
- When dealing with persons under the age of 18 I will ensure that a parent/guardian is also always present.



## **EQUESTRIAN SPORTS NEW ZEALAND**

All known conflicts of interest must be avoided, wherever practicable. However, ESNZ understands that in our sport this may not always be possible so ask that if a conflict of interest is unavoidable it must be declared prior to if known, or at the start of the Event and it will be up to the Event Ground Jury as to how that conflict of interest is managed. A conflict of interest is defined as any personal, professional or financial relationship, including relationships of family members that could influence or be perceived to influence objectivity when representing or conducting business or other dealings for or on behalf of ESNZ. On becoming aware of a potential Conflict of Interest I undertake to promptly notify the ESNZ discipline (or where the conflict only arises and/or is identified on-site, the President of the Ground Jury).

I will maintain a neutral, independent and fair position towards Athletes, Owners, Trainers, Grooms, Organisers, other Officials and stakeholders. Financial and/or personal interests will never influence my officiating duties and I will spare no effort to avoid any such perception.

In the course of my duties or when representing ESNZ I will refrain from making any public statements, including to the media or in social media, that might cause harm to ESNZ or to equestrian sport in general. This includes statements that might create a perception of bias.

I will not place bets on Athletes and Horses competing at Events or otherwise receive any financial or other gain as a product of a particular result.

The breach of any obligation assumed under this Code of Conduct and/or any breach of the ESNZ and FEI Rules and Regulations may lead to any of the following sanctions as stipulated in the Rules:

- Warning letter
- Obligation to attend a course, undergo restorative training and/or to pass an exam
- Fine
- Suspension from officiating duties (provisional or for a stated period of time)
- Removal from the relevant and appropriate lists of Officials
- Any other sanctions as stated in the relevant Rules or Regulations.