

WALLANGARRA ADULT RIDERS GROUP INC

GEAR SAFETY STANDARDS

Helmets

ALL members must be wearing an EA approved helmet when mounted on a horse at all times. The accepted safety standards and more information can be found on the EA website.

Current Australian standard AS/NZS 3838(2006 onwards) provided they are SAI Global marked; New Australian standard ARB HS 2012 provided they are SAI Global marked; current American Standards ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards) provided they are SEI marked, or SNELL E2001; current British standard PAS 015 (1998 or 2011) provided they are BSI Kitemarked; interim European Standard VGI (01.040:2014-12) with or without BSI Kitemark.

Correct fitting results in the skin on your forehead moving with the helmet. The retention harness and chinstrap must be firmly fastened when mounted. Any helmet that receives a significant impact must be replaced immediately.

Body Protectors (Safety Vests/Cross Country Vests)

Body protectors are **compulsory** for any rider participating in a cross country lesson, regardless of height. **If you are not wearing a correctly-fitting body protector you may not ride in a cross country lesson at rallies.** EA has introduced a minimum standard as of January 1st, 2020, stating that during competitions all riders must be using a body protector manufactured after 2009 and complying with either EN13158 or BETA Level 3 standard.

Please note: WARC recommends all members ride with the highest level of safety gear as possible, to minimise the risk of injury during a fall. Currently EA's new standards only apply to competition, and not training or lessons, and PC has not yet changed their requirement that all riders must be wearing a correctly fitting vest. WARC members do not need to comply with the new standard for lessons or insurance, however anyone competing EA will need a vest that complies (this includes ARC classes at EA events), and we recommend all riders replace their vests as per the EA and manufacturer's recommendations.

Boots (rider)

Must have a low heel to stop the boot slipping through the stirrup. Must have a smooth sole. Light treads are usually alright.

Boots (horse)

Recommended but not compulsory for jumping and cross country. Must fit the horse well and be secured correctly, as per manufacturer's instructions.

Saddles

Should be correctly fitted for both the horse and the rider. Treeless and Western saddles are permitted at rallies, but not recommended for jumping. Must have a girth with a minimum of 2 buckles, or girth with one buckle plus surcingle. Must be in good repair with no rotting stitching.

Stirrups

Irons must allow 1cm. each side of riders boot at the broadest part. Leathers must be in good repair with no stripped holes or rotting stitching.

Bridle

This must be correctly fitted and in good repair. May be English or Western. Bitless bridles permitted. Headcollars/halters (for riding in) not permitted.

Reins

Should be of safe length; i.e. not long enough for riders foot to be caught in loop of reins.

Girth

Person's fingers should be able to fit comfortably between the horse and the girth when the rider is mounted.

Fly Veils

Should only be used under exceptional circumstances.

Bandages

If worn, must be either stitched or taped with at least 3 rounds of tape, and under padding used. Taping of boots is optional.

Club Uniform

Club shirts (long and short sleeved) and saddle blankets are available for purchase, but are not compulsory at rallies. **Club Uniform is compulsory if you compete in an ARCA challenge or an ARC class at an event.** When competing in uniform jodhpurs may be cream or white.

The above guidelines are taken from the ARCA manual, PCAWA gear checking manual and the EA Website. A copy of the manuals for further information can be obtained from the Secretary of the Wallangarra Adult Riders Group, or online. For queries about permitted gear, please talk to a committee member, see the EA website gear manual for that discipline, or ask one of our coaches.