

Reining Queensland Disciplinary Committee

Purpose & Operational Outline

Purpose

The Reining Queensland Disciplinary Committee has been established to uphold the standards, integrity, and reputation of the sport by ensuring adherence to the Reining Australia (RA) Code of Conduct and Welfare Policies.

This committee operates as an independent body, separate from the Reining Queensland (RQ) Committee, and is comprised of professional, ethical, and impartial individuals. Its purpose is to provide a fair, transparent, and unbiased process for reviewing and addressing reported incidents.

The committee exists to:

- Uphold the RA Code of Conduct and Welfare Policies
 - Promote accountability and ethical behaviour within the sport
 - Ensure all participants are treated fairly and respectfully
 - Maintain the integrity and reputation of reining in Queensland
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Independence & Integrity

- The Disciplinary Committee functions independently of the RQ Committee to avoid conflicts of interest.
 - Members are selected based on their professionalism, integrity, and ability to remain impartial.
 - All matters are handled with strict confidentiality and discretion.
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Scope of Authority

The committee is responsible for:

- Reviewing formal complaints or reported incidents relating to misconduct, rule breaches, or welfare concerns
 - Assessing matters in line with the RA Code of Conduct and Welfare Policies
 - Investigating incidents where required
 - Deliberating on appropriate outcomes based on the information provided
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Process

1. **Submission of Incident**
 - All complaints or incident reports must be formally submitted through the appropriate RQ channels.
2. **De-identification**
 - Information provided to the committee will have identifying details (names and personal information) removed wherever reasonably possible to ensure complete impartiality.
3. **Review & Investigation**

- The committee will review all available information and may request further details if required.
 - Investigations will be conducted in a fair, thorough, and timely manner.
- 4. Deliberation**
- Committee members will collectively assess the information and determine whether a breach has occurred.
- 5. Recommendation**
- The committee will recommend appropriate disciplinary action in alignment with RA policies and guidelines.
 - Recommendations are made with consistency, fairness, and proportionality in mind.
- 6. Outcome**
- Final decisions will be communicated through the appropriate RQ channels, maintaining confidentiality where required.

Guiding Principles

All committee actions and decisions are guided by the following principles:

- **Impartiality** – Free from bias, conflict of interest, or external influence
- **Confidentiality** – Respecting the privacy of all individuals involved
- **Fairness** – Ensuring all matters are assessed objectively and consistently
- **Integrity** – Upholding the highest ethical standards
- **Transparency** – Maintaining clear and accountable processes (while respecting confidentiality)

Confidentiality

- All information reviewed by the committee is strictly confidential.
- Committee members are required to maintain discretion at all times.
- Breaches of confidentiality may result in removal from the committee.

Conflict of Interest

- Any committee member who identifies a real or perceived conflict of interest must declare it immediately.
- That member will be excluded from reviewing or deliberating on the relevant matter.

Committee Composition

- The committee will consist of individuals selected for their professional conduct, sound judgement, and ethical standing.
- Members are not part of the current RQ Committee to ensure independence.

- The number of members will be sufficient to ensure balanced and fair decision-making.

Review of Framework

This structure and process will be reviewed periodically to ensure it remains effective, fair, and aligned with industry standards and expectations.