

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR SQHA YOUTH COMPETITORS

The AQHA have introduced some new rules regarding the wearing of safety helmets (must have a harness that fastens under the chin) at AQHA-approved shows, which came into effect on 1st August 2018 (Rule 80.4 AQHA Rulebook 2018). Therefore, the following rules will apply at all SQHA shows, commencing with our September 2018 show:



ADAPTED FROM AQHA RULE 80.4 - It is optional that an exhibitor can wear a safety helmet with a harness which conforms to the current Australian Safety Standards in all classes except:



a) That it is mandatory that all exhibitors wear such helmets in the Hunter Hack classes and when schooling over fences;

b) All Youth competitors must wear such helmets when competing in all English classes, speed classes (including but not limited to working cow horse, figure of eight, barrel racing, flag, key hole and pole bending), lead line and walk and jog/trot classes (for 5-10 year olds);

c) The chin strap must be securely fastened under the chin at all times during competition and practice.



WHAT THIS MEANS FOR SQHA SHOWS-

- 1. Youth Lead line (3-6 year olds), Youth Walk and Jog/Trot classes (5-10 year olds):** an Australian Safety Standard approved helmet must be worn in all classes.
- 2. Junior Youth and Senior Youth classes:** an Australian Safety Standard approved helmet must be worn in all ridden English classes (Hunter under Saddle and Hunt Seat Equitation), speed classes, as above, and when schooling over fences. All youth may wear a safety helmet with harness in all classes, including western classes, if preferred.
- 3. Beginner and Novice Youth classes:** an Australian Safety Standard approved helmet must be worn in all English classes, Hunter Hack and speed classes, as above.
- 4. All competitors in all classes:** aside from the categories listed above from 1-3, any competitor in any class has the option of wearing a safety helmet.
- 5. If a safety helmet is worn, whether mandatory or optional, the chin strap must be securely fastened under the chin at all times during competition and practice.**

HELMET TYPES-

As the Australian Safety Standards regularly change the AQHA has not supplied a specific list of approved helmets, however, it is mandatory that the helmet have a harness that fastens under the chin. For English classes the helmet must be in the colours of black, navy blue, green or brown only, with the exception of Beginner classes when a white safety helmet may be worn if desired.