



# MEMBERS CODE OF CONDUCT

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## What is the Code of Conduct?

The Code of Conduct provides guidance on the preferred standards of behaviour to be displayed by you while at training or representing your club and sport. It will help you to make informed choices about your behaviour and to act in a way that is consistent with Schutzhund Australia Inc.'s values.

## What values guide behaviour in Schutzhund Australia Inc.?

Schutzhund Australia Inc. values are set out in guidelines and relative documentation:

- Act with honesty and integrity and treat everyone with respect
- Enhance and protect the value and benefits of membership and the sport
- Build trusted relationships with our members, public and demonstrate responsibility, maturity and common sense to all
- Encourage, including supporting and developing education in dogsport and Schutzhund Australia Inc.
- Encourage education, responsible ownership and be aware and respect public perception and ignorance.

## Some examples of behaviours consistent with these values

- Act with honesty and integrity and treat everyone with respect
  - Exercise courtesy, respect and consideration in all dealings with fellow members, public and authorities
  - Engage in activities that enhance or maintain Dogsport and Schutzhund Australia Inc. reputation
  - Maintain confidentiality of all sensitive information
  - Engage in activities that do not create an actual or potential conflict of interest.
- Enhance and protect the value and benefits of your club's and Schutzhund Australia Inc. membership
  - Attend to members' and publics' requirements and enquiries promptly, efficiently and professionally
  - Promote Schutzhund Australia Inc. purposes whenever possible
  - Actively support seminars, trials, introduction of new members and dogsports.
- Build trusted relationships with club members and provide excellent service to all
  - Work towards educating and achieving results or exceeding the expectations of club members
  - Promote community trust and confidence in Schutzhund Australia Inc. and the services provided through clubs.

- Empower, including supporting and developing members
  - Provide and create opportunities to enhance and develop your own and others' education and understanding of dogsport and responsible ownership
  - Treat each other fairly and appreciate diversity of views, ideas and cultures
  - Promote a safe environment that is free from harassment or bullying
  - Be a role model for others in Schutzhund Australia Inc.
  - Speak positively about your work team.
- Encourage continuous improvement and innovation
  - Strive to achieve a culture of learning, education, respect, growth and promotion of dogsport.
  - Work as a team member of your club, actively supporting your team and Schutzhund Australia Inc. in the achievement of its goals
  - Aim to achieve high performance standards
  - Utilise your time where possible to work and promote your club and Schutzhund Australia Inc. purpose
  - Share and promote information about club achievements and successes.

### **How does Schutzhund Australia Inc. encourage and promote appropriate conduct?**

Schutzhund Australia Inc. administers activities to encourage positive behaviour and build a culture that is consistent with the values of the organisation. Some of these activities include:

- Sanctioning Trials and Events for the promotion of Dogsport and competition.
- Recognition points program: this program formally recognises your achievements through successful trialling.
- Training and development: judges and helpers are involved and provided training and development opportunities to enhance their skills.
- Schutzhund Australia Inc. Dogsport publication; Shared information and discussion amongst clubs helps to create a common understanding and forum for communication.
- Communication: Schutzhund Australia Inc. BOM Minutes provide consistent communication that provides Constituents with information about initiatives across Schutzhund Australia Inc. and not only keeps you informed, but also promotes the concept that you are part of 'one Schutzhund Australia Inc.'.

### **What if my conduct is not appropriate?**

Your Club will work with you to ensure you understand the Clubs' and Schutzhund Australia Inc. values and the behaviours that are consistent with those values. There is a process your club will follow, which in most cases would start with an informal discussion with you to raise your awareness of the issue. *For more information about this process, please speak with your Club Secretary or President.*

