



RULES FOR CONDUCTING AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Host bodies should be aware that the National Championships are to be run under the rules set out hereunder, and any additional rules which the PAA may include.

1. Prior to being awarded the National Championships, the host shall fully brief the PAA as required on all matters concerning the following issues:
 - a) Venue;
 - b) Location;
 - c) Fields, minimum of five, unless provision of a field permitting night play under lights;
 - d) Facilities, including food and beverage arrangements;
 - e) Workforce;
 - f) Social Program;
 - g) Trophies;
 - h) Accommodation. Including camp sites, powered and unpowered; and
 - i) Toilet and Shower Facilities

The fields/facilities will be inspected by the PAA Board.

2. The Draw for the Nationals shall be drawn up by the Board of the PAA or a Sub Committee appointed by the PAA Board.
3. The National Executive Officer shall be the only person authorised to distribute the draw to the State Associations.
4. The Host shall supply to the PAA a fully audited report, including balance sheet, within 180 days from the conclusion of the Nationals.
5. Guests of the PAA and the host state shall be provided with complimentary tickets upon request.
6. All states shall compete in their official colours.
7. Each field shall have a Field Manager who shall report to the Nationals Management.
8. All fields to be identified by a different colour.

9. A minimum notice of 1 hour must be given when changing published match times.
10. The draw to be displayed as closely as possible to the administration centre.
11. All fields to have scoreboards and the host shall ensure that the scores are posted throughout the tournament.
12. No game will proceed without one representative from each team to conduct the scoring and time keeping, or such persons as nominated by the PAA. Results to be recorded in the Official Score sheet Booklet.
 - a) Scorecards shall have the provision for the order in which the players take the field, with the captain similarly identified; and
 - b) A list of the player's names with the captain identified shall be given to the official score table for that game.
17. Goal umpires shall be dressed in white coats and closed in shoes.
18. The PAA will approve a Coordinator of Announcers. Announcers used throughout the Nationals must be approved by the PAA prior to the commencement of the Tournament. All costs associated with the announcers must be met by the Host State.
19. Horse Accommodation shall be clearly marked with the name of the relevant state. Accommodation in close proximity to main dirt roads should be avoided. Not less than three months prior to the Nationals the host shall forward a map of the town and site facilities to the State Administrators for distribution.
20. Ambulance or Paramedic vehicles (these vehicles must be able to transport injured to hospital) and officers are to be in attendance and on the ground from the commencement of Official Practice and for each day of the Nationals (eg: St. John's, Ambulance Australia or similar accredited Ambulance/First Aid Providers.) The PAA is to be advised prior to the event of said arrangements. A fee maybe charged by the hosts to cover ambulance costs.
21. The Host shall be required to stage an official function, which shall be compulsory for all players and officials, with juniors optional. If PAA Officials and partners attend this function all names should be provided to the Host State at least ten days prior to the event.
22. Each state shall be responsible for the purchase of tickets for its own members. Details of the official function to be forwarded to all states not less than thirty days prior to the Nationals.
23. The host shall supply a Sponsors Tent, for Official Guests, Polocrosse Officials (President, Administrator, Appointed Officers, Life Members and their partners) and Sponsors, with tea, coffee and light luncheon and light refreshments available. Cost

to be shared equally with the PAA and the Host State. The Host State is to appoint a Tent Manager/Host for the duration. At the Commencement of the Nationals passes to be issued to guests and these must be shown to obtain admittance.

27. The National Championships may consist of up to twelve competitions; a minimum of four teams in each division:
 - i. Senior Men
 - ii. Men - Second Division
 - iii. Senior Women
 - iv. Senior Mixed
 - v. Intermediate Men Under 21
 - vi. Intermediate Women Under 21
 - vii. Junior Boys Under 16
 - viii. Junior Girls Under 16
 - ix. Sub-Juniors Under 12 - Open
 - x. Masters Men 50 and Over
 - xi. Masters Women 40 and Over
 - xii. Masters Mixed (Men 50 and Over; Women 40 and Over)
29. The names, photos and details of all players shall be published in the official program.
30. Each state:
 - a) Shall appoint a State Manager who shall be responsible for all that States individual Team Managers.
 - b) Shall appoint an Umpire Manager who will be responsible for that State's umpires.
31. The National Umpire Committee will appoint umpires for each game.
32. The Australian Director of Umpiring, or his nominee, shall hold an umpire's meeting prior to the commencement of competition. This meeting shall be at a time and place suitable to the Director of Umpiring.
33. All teams competing at the Nationals shall take part in the grand parade or in any other activity approved by the PAA.
34. All games shall start at the published time.
35. Trophies shall be presented at the completion of the final or at another time at the discretion of the host committee for the relative competition. The host shall ensure that any trophy recipients are notified in sufficient time to enable them to be properly presented to receive their trophy.
36. The selection of awards shall be carried out by persons approved by the PAA.

37. Judges of awards shall not be umpires of games at the tournament.
38. The best presented team trophy shall be awarded on the basis of the presentation of the relevant teams throughout the tournament, including, but not exclusively, their appearance in the grand parade.
39. The Umpire Committee shall nominate two Umpires and a match referee to officiate at all games played during the Nationals.
40. A player must have resided in Australia for two (2) years and not played for any other country at International level for two (2) years to be eligible to compete at the National Championships.
41. The PAA shall appoint a suitably qualified Veterinarian who shall preside over horse welfare issues. All matters regarding horse welfare are to be referred to the approved Veterinarian.
 - a) The Veterinarian must be on-site one hour prior to the start of play, including Official Practice and must remain on grounds for the duration of all play.
 - b) Any complaints arising from decisions made by the official veterinarian, Director of Umpiring or Horse Welfare Officer must be in writing and signed by the team captain and relevant state team manager.
 - c) The Disputes Committee will consider any such complaints and their decision shall be final.
43. A Veterinary inspection Station and crush must be made available.
44. All horses (unless incapacitated) shall be taken to a central veterinary inspection station, and in the event that a horse is incapacitated the veterinary surgeon must be requested to attend over the two-way radio system.
 - a) No calls for veterinary surgeons to attend to horses shall be placed over the public address system.
45. All official vehicles, including motor cycles, must wear 'Official Vehicle' stickers at all times when they are present at the tournament. Disabled Parking must be provided and be well sign posted.
46. The host state shall provide the trade site arrangements to PAA sponsors if required.
47. The Polocrosse Association of Australia shall appoint the Official Draw Committee.
48. Teams will play one game a day wherever possible.
49. The Vetting Out of Horses will be undertaken by the Nationals Veterinarian, and appointed persons.

50. The Horse Welfare Officer must converse with the Director of Umpiring prior to any action undertaken.
51. During preliminary games all chukkas will be six minutes in duration. Finals shall consist of eight chukkas; duration will be determined by the PAA National Umpire Committee depending on conditions on the day.
Competition will cease if the relative temperature reaches 36 degrees Celsius or at anytime as determined by the Polocrosse Association of Australia and Host State.
52. All Games listed on the Official Draw must be played.
53. In the case of a Team lodging a Forfeit they are removed from the competition.