

EQUESTRIAN SA STATEMENT

Equestrian SA (ESA) has been made aware of an allegation of racial vilification incident at an Equestrian event recently. We believe the matter was reported to the authorities to investigate.

Racial vilification involves conduct involving vilification of people on the ground of race. A person must not, by a public act, incite hatred towards, serious contempt for, or severe ridicule, of a person or group of persons on the grounds of their race.

Racially vilification is punishable by law. The maximum penalty for an offender is \$25K for a body corporate, \$5K for an individual, three years imprisonment or both. If the offender is convicted a court may award damages against the defendant.

A member may be found to have discriminated against a person on the grounds of race under the EA Member Protection Policy and would be made accountable accordingly.

ESA takes these matters seriously and condemns any form of racial vilification towards members and individuals within the community. ESA will be discussing the matter with the Organising Committee of the event and the authorities before deciding on how to proceed.

Racial vilification has no place in our sport or community. As a sport and an industry, we need to educate our members and supporters that this behaviour is not acceptable or appropriate at an Equestrian event or in the wider community.

We will work closely with our members to ensure they are aware of our behavioural expectations when hosting, attending, and participating in Equestrian events.

We ask members that witness this type of behaviour to report it to the Organising Committee in the first instance, the Discipline Committee and or ESA.