



Address: PO Box 710 Sydney Markets NSW 2129 Phone: 02 8736 1256  
email: [stateoffice@rdansw.org.au](mailto:stateoffice@rdansw.org.au) website: [www.rdansw.org.au](http://www.rdansw.org.au)

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To Centres via email

Dear Colleagues

**RE: Gold Medal Accreditation – Good Sports Program**

We're just letting you know some fantastic news about our organisation. We recently joined the online Good Sports program, a part of the Alcohol and Drugs Foundation (see [adf.org.au](http://adf.org.au)), and have just earned ourselves top level Gold Medal accreditation.

This means we have policies (see attached) in place that cover:

- Alcohol practices
- Licensing requirements
- Promotion
- Tobacco management
- Illegal drugs
- Mental health
- Safe transport
- Supporting junior members

What that means is that we make sure our riders and volunteers have a healthy environment to participate in and enjoy.

We believe in safe celebrations that are not all about drinking. And we especially want to make sure riders and volunteers of all ages get home again safely.

Our organisation is more than just a place to enjoy equine-related activities.

It is a welcoming environment that values people of all skill levels and the contributions they make.

Our comprehensive policy and the actions we take every day mean we are well prepared to deal with any situations that might arise. And we are committed to support our riders and volunteers to help them deal with life's challenges.

We also believe in role modelling positive, respectful behaviour across all ages on site and off site.

Our Gold Medal achievement doesn't mean we will be sitting still. RDA (NSW) will be updating our Good Sports credentials every year, and we also welcome your suggestions and feedback.

Over-time the Gold Medal accreditation should also provide Grant and Fundraising opportunities. Please visit [www.goodsports.com.au](http://www.goodsports.com.au) for more details.

For and on behalf of the RDA NSW Board

Ed Binney  
Director/Marketing