



**Western Dressage Association of America**  
**Code of Conduct**  
**Applicable to All Involved in WDAA Activities**

1. This Code of Conduct establishes WDAA's expectations for practicing the discipline of Western Dressage. It is a foundation intended to promote a positive environment and good sportsmanship. At all times, this Code applies to the following individuals as ambassadors of Western Dressage: directors, officers, volunteers, employees, contractors, members, participants, athletes, athlete support personnel, owners, competition organizers and managers, licensed officials, coaches, and others appointed or authorized to act on behalf of the WDAA, all of whom shall:
  - a. Act as an ambassador of the discipline and in a manner that does not bring embarrassment to WDAA, or otherwise may be detrimental to the image or reputation of WDAA or Western Dressage;
  - b. Adhere to the highest standards and rules and regulations of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) and the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA), to both of which WDAA is an affiliate;
  - c. Adhere to the USEF Safe Sport Policy, U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, and Minor Athlete Abuse Protection Policies;
  - d. Adhere to all applicable state, federal, and foreign laws;
  - e. Place the well-being, health, and safety of horses and others above all other considerations, including developing performance;
  - f. Conduct all dealings with honesty and fairness;
  - g. Engage in no verbal or physical threats, no bullying, and no verbal or physical misconduct against others;
  - h. Instruct one's support team in sportsmanship and demand that they display good sportsmanship;
  - i. Model fair play, respect, and the highest levels of sportsmanship;
  - j. Model inclusive behavior, supporting diversity while opposing all types of discrimination, including racism and sexism, at all levels of the sport;
  - k. Treat all persons associated with WDAA or participating in or attending a WDAA event or activity fairly, properly, justly, professionally, respectfully, with sensitivity, and without any form of discriminatory behavior;
  - l. Avoid conflicts of interest, both real and perceived; and
  - m. Report Code of Conduct violations.
2. A violation of this Code of Conduct may be grounds for discipline.
3. Code of Conduct violations must be reported promptly to the WDAA Executive Director Diana Swanson, email: [dini@westerndressageassociation.org](mailto:dini@westerndressageassociation.org).
4. Retaliation against someone reporting a violation in good faith will not be tolerated; will be considered a Code of Conduct violation; and may be grounds for discipline.

By becoming a member of WDAA I agree to act in accordance with the WDAA Code of Conduct .