



SCHOOLS & UNIVERSITIES POLO ASSOCIATION

SUPA Universities Code of Conduct

Unsportsmanlike Behaviour

Sportsmanship is an essential part of the sport of polo and SUPA champions diversity and embraces inclusive values. We ask all members to treat all individuals with respect and help SUPA to maintain an inclusive, safe and enjoyable environment for everyone at SUPA events and across the sport of polo.

Inappropriate Behaviour – SUPA is committed to making the sport of polo fun, affordable and accessible to all youth players at grass roots level, however, the sport of polo is an easy target for media attention. SUPA will take a very dim view on any player, team or member of a team's organization behaving in a way which is inappropriate, disrespectful or risks bringing the sport, SUPA or the HPA into disrepute and disciplinary action may follow.

Bad Language – We ask all members to avoid using offensive, derogatory or foul language during the play or at a SUPA fixture. Regardless of whether it is directed towards another person or not, this is unacceptable and will not be tolerated. SUPA reserves the right to implement penalties such as fines, disqualifications and bans from playing at future SUPA fixtures, and will report this behaviour to your university.

Discrimination – SUPA is a safe space for everyone; therefore, we operate a zero-tolerance policy towards any form of vulgar or abusive language or discrimination based on disability, race, religion, gender, sexuality, age, occupation or political opinion. SUPA reserves the right to implement penalties such as fines, disqualifications and bans from playing at future SUPA fixtures. Any matters that require further investigation will be reported to the HPA, your university and in serious cases, to the police.

Polo Pony Welfare – Polo ponies or horses are fundamental to the sport of polo. SUPA is committed to ensuring that the welfare of horses is paramount. Whether you are riding your own polo pony or are hiring from a horse hire, all players must treat their pony with respect as a living animal not as a piece of equipment.

Any actions which could be seen as abuse or could put the welfare of any polo pony at risk recklessly or unnecessarily, such as improper or irresponsible use of any equipment (including whips, mallets or tack), reckless riding, and acting in a way which endangers the life of any polo pony will be taken very seriously. Vets and horse welfare officers are on site at our events and SUPA reserves the right to report any horse welfare or animal abuse cases to the HPA, the police and any subsequent authorities.



Rules of Play – The rules as laid down by the HPA are to be applied unless SUPA and their officials deem otherwise. All players must abide by the rules of the tournament and the wider SUPA university rules or they will face disciplinary action.

Drugs and Alcohol

Drugs – SUPA operates a zero-tolerance level where any illegal or prohibited substance are concerned. Anyone found selling or distributing any illegal or prohibited substance during a SUPA event or within the grounds of a SUPA approved venue, may be subject to a lifetime ban from playing polo within SUPA.

Alcohol – Playing polo and alcohol do not mix. Our stewards in conjunction with our medical staff and SUPA officials on site will not allow anyone to ride a horse if they suspect them to be under the influence of alcohol (or drugs). If a breathalyser test is offered and refused, the individual shall not be given the benefit of the doubt and will not be permitted to play in any subsequent matches left to play. Your university will need to find a substitute or SUPA will choose one of theirs at your cost.

Car Use

Considerate parking – SUPA has large number of cars parking at any of its event, we ask all attendees to keep all main routes in and out of the site clear and passable for emergency vehicle access. Please only park in allocated areas, and park considerately to allow efficient use of parking space for others, leaving adequate room between each row of cars to prevent blocking other vehicles from entering and exiting the site.

Driving on site – All cars being driven on site at any SUPA fixture must not exceed 10 miles per hour at any time and must only be driven in approved areas. All vehicles must be driven considerately to protect the safety of horses and people. Vehicles must only be driven by the person/s insured on that vehicle and seatbelts must be worn by all occupants of the vehicle when the vehicle is in motion. Reckless driving or driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol will result in disciplinary action.

Any vehicle parked on site is left at the owner/drivers risk. SUPA or the tournament venue accepts no responsibility for property that is damaged or stolen.

Player Equipment

Please see the University rules page for information about player equipment.

Conditions for Players

Please see the University rules page for information about conditions for players.

SUPA Player Abilities

Please refer to the Player Ability and Division Rules for division information and criteria.