



**Document Name: Gymkhanas Hosted by ACA Affiliated Committees**

**Document Number: COR018**

Version	Date Approved	Approved By	Brief Description
1.00	16 November 2021	Management Committee.	Establishment of document.
1.01	5 July 2023	Executive.	Change to point 5 in the section 'Format for Running Gymkhanas' to reflect nominations can be taken on the day when using Campdraft One.
1.02	19 May 2025	Management Committee.	Inclusion of 18 year old competitors for pre-existing Perpetual Awards.



## Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of this policy is to establish the significance of gymkhanas within the sport of campdrafting, and define the process for conducting such events.

## Policy Scope/Coverage

This policy applies to all ACA Affiliated Committees and their event officials, as well as the ACA Management Committee, ACA Accredited Judges, ACA Office Team and ACA Members.

## Policy Statement

### Significance of Gymkhanas within the sport of Campdrafting

The sport of campdrafting is emboldened through the conduct of gymkhanas. Gymkhana events serve as a development program for the sports next generation, where participants learn and refine core riding skills, such as balance & control, akin to the early junior development programs adopted by other sports, such as Rugby League.

The heritage of campdrafting is not only promoted but preserved through the conduct of gymkhanas. The significant cultural implications of gymkhanas, that are learned at an introductory level and carried on throughout our sport include:

1. An appreciation and respect for the officials that conduct events.
2. Reverence for peers, with an ability to celebrate fellow competitors' success regardless of individual's outcomes.
3. Animal welfare.
4. Personal conduct, accountability and presentation.
5. Basic principles of general horsemanship.
6. An awareness towards health & safety of both themselves and others in the vicinity.

### Definition of a Gymkhana

For the purposes outlined in this document, a gymkhana is defined as a series of skill based events run consecutively, focusing on the execution of various patterns, or completion of various obstacles, by horse and rider. Gymkhanas are sometimes referred to as 'mounted games.'

### Format for conducting a Gymkhana – Prior to the Event

1. Gymkhanas must only be held in conjunction with a sanctioned campdraft.
2. Gymkhanas must only be hosted by an ACA Affiliated Committee.
3. Gymkhanas, including an itemised list of the individual events, must be listed on the campdraft program submitted to the ACA Office for approval.
4. Gymkhanas must be open to Mini, Junior and Juvenile ACA Members only, with a current financial membership status.
5. Gymkhanas with pre-existing Perpetual Trophies are open to current financial adult members. These events must be approved by the ACA Operations Manager. Permission from the Operations Manager must be issued through official correspondence.



6. Gymkhana entrants must be financial prior to nominating for the event. If not using Campdraft One to accept nominations, the nominations and competitor lists must be submitted to the ACA Office in conjunction with the campdraft nominations list.
7. Should the ACA Affiliated Committee hosting the event, wish to obtain a list of entrants' date of births for the purposes of establishing age groups, this request should be made to the ACA Office at the time of submitting the nominations list.

#### Format for conducting a Gymkhana – At the Event

1. The General Competition Rules & Guidelines ('ACA Rule Book') applies to all ACA sanctioned events, and gymkhanas should therefore be held accordingly.
2. ACA acknowledges that gymkhanas are only held in conjunction with a sanctioned campdraft, and therefore, it is considered that the ACA Affiliated Committee hosting the event has given due regard to the provision of:
  - Appropriately qualified event officials.
  - An adequate space for the event, including in terms of ground surface, fencing and safe marshalling areas.
  - Animal and member welfare, including ensuring entrants are led by a component person where deemed necessary.

#### Format for conducting a Gymkhana – Where not prior approved

1. ACA acknowledge that there are limited instances whereby an ACA Affiliated Committee may elect to hold a gymkhana without prior approval; that is, circumstances arise at the event that make facilitating such an event possible (for example surplus time on the program).
2. Where such an instance occurs, any gymkhana is to be conducted in accordance with the above, and the ACA Office advised so that retrospective approval can be granted.

#### Examples of Individual Gymkhana Events (Including, but not limited to)

Barrels	Bending	Bounce Pony
Flagging	Keyhole	Clover Leaf
Drum and Peg	Running Tee	Sporting Figure of 8

#### Related Documents

- *COR12 ACA Rule Book*