



# Australian Board of Highland Dancing Inc

<https://www.abhdi.com/>  
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## **Code of Professional Conduct and Code of Ethics for ABHDI Adjudicators**

### **Code of Professional Conduct**

1. A judge is an official representative of the ABHDI and must always conduct her/himself in a professional manner.
2. A judge must, at all times, adhere to the rules and procedures as set out in the Constitution and Rules of the RSOBHD, the Constitution & Rules of the ABHDI and the ABHDI Rules & Regulations.
3. When adjudicating, a judge must make independent decisions based on her/his observations. These decisions must be intelligent, objective and technically sound.
4. When adjudicating, a judge must always be impartial and disregard personal relationships and affiliations.
5. When adjudicating a judge must be smartly groomed and appropriately dressed for the occasion.
6. A judge must never publicly criticise another judge's adjudicating decisions.  
Failure to comply with this Code of Conduct may lead to disciplinary action being taken.

### **ABHDI Code of Ethics**

In this Code "Participant" means any organisation, body, association or individual with full membership of the Board; any individual who is a member of an organisation, body, or association with full or associate membership of the Board; any individual who is registered with the Board; any person directly connected to a body or individual who is registered with the Board.

This includes Judges, Teachers, Organisers, Parents, Dancers & all parties connected with dancers.

### **General behaviour**

1. Participants will display honesty, fairness and equality of opportunity in all relationships in association with Highland Dancing, this includes but is not limited to social network communication (e.g. Facebook).
2. Participants will make themselves aware of Social Media guidance provided by SOBHD
3. Participants will not engage in behaviour which undermines the status and esteem of Highland Dancing.
4. Participants will recognise the authority of judges and other officials and treat them with courtesy and respect.
5. Participants will treat all other participants with courtesy and respect, whether successful in competition or not.
6. Participants will not discriminate between other participants on the grounds of age, disability, race, sex, intersex status, gender identity and sexual orientation.
7. Participants will respect the competence of teachers and judges and will not engage in public criticism; nor will participants be exposed to adverse public criticism. This includes but is not limited to verbal, textual or social networking communication.

8. Participants will not compromise the integrity of any competition result by seeking to influence any judge's decision.
9. Participants will not actively persuade dancers to change teacher nor will participants seek to influence another participant's choice of teacher.
10. Participants are responsible to maintain trophies and return them in the same conditions as received.
11. Participants will dress appropriately and modestly when in public at competitions.

**Child protection/Well-being of Dancers**

All participants will seek to ensure the health & well-being of the dancer at all times. In particular, the ABHDI recommends that the teacher will comply with the disclosure requirements as applicable in the country/countries in which they are teaching and will provide planned programmes of preparation and competition for dancers; Organisers will have a child protection policy relevant to their State and adhere to national child protection policy, provide a safe environment, and suitable programming of events to ensure sufficient recovery time for the dancers.

**Teachers/Judges**

Teachers/judges must be suitably qualified, and will have a responsibility to maintain their qualification and expertise. Teachers/judges must behave in a professional manner at all times and will not compromise dancers by advocating an unfair advantage.

*Participants who do not adhere to the above will be subject to a penalty decided by the Board.*

**I agree to adhere to the RSOBHD Constitution and Rules, the ABHDI Constitution, the ABHDI Rules & Regulations and the ABHDI Code of Conduct & Code of Ethics.**

PRINT NAME.....

SIGNATURE.....DATE.....

**Please sign and return to: ABHDI Secretary, 7 Blanche Court, Rothwell Qld 4022**