

**UNITED STATES PONY CLUBS  
POLICY STATEMENT**

**SUBJECT: DRUGS/ALCOHOL/TOBACCO**

**EFFECTIVE DATE: 2/4/94**

**POLICY NO: 0500**

**REVISED DATE: 2/2/96**

**I. PHILOSOPHY:**

In order to provide a healthy, safe, and orderly environment for Pony Club members at USPC functions, the Board of Governors recognizes the necessity of regulating the use of tobacco, alcohol, and other substances that can affect judgment, safety, and health.

**II. POLICY STATEMENT:**

The policy of the Board of Governors is that Pony Club members' use of illegal substances that can affect judgment, health, and safety, is forbidden for the duration of any USPC sponsored activity. Adult use of alcohol and tobacco must conform to local laws and applicable safety regulations and should show concern for the present health and future health habits of Pony Club members. All adults attending USPC functions are expected to exercise discretion and responsibility. Adult members and leaders should refrain from using alcohol or other substances that may adversely affect their judgment at any time that they are acting, or may be called upon to act in a responsible position.

**III. AMPLIFYING INSTRUCTIONS AND GUIDELINES:**

- A. Adults in a responsible position including leaders, chaperones, judges, coaches, instructors, examiners, etc., whose judgment and/or actions may affect the safety and/or well-being of Pony Club members and/or their horses.
- B. Chaperones should refrain from using alcohol or other substances for the duration of the activity.
- C. All adults who use tobacco must conform to local laws and safety regulations. In addition, adults should not use tobacco where exposure to smoke might affect Pony Club members. Activity organizers may designate an area where adult smoking may be allowed.
- D. "Duration of any Pony Club activity" is defined for the purpose of Policy 0500 as the period of time beginning with the official opening of the activity and ending with the official close of the activity.

- E. Any underage Pony Club member found to be using, in possession of, or under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, or other age restricted or illegal substances during a USPC sponsored activity shall be disqualified and barred from further participation in that activity. Any adult Pony Club member found to be using, in possession of, or under the influence of illegal substances during a USPC sponsored activity shall be disqualified and barred from further participation in that activity.
- F. Any adult attending, participating, assisting with, officiating or chaperoning at any USPC sponsored activity whose behavior is inappropriate or creates a potential hazard to the safety and/or well-being of Pony Club members, officials, horses, or other individuals may, at the discretion of the officials in charge of the activity, be asked to leave and be barred from the remainder of the activity.

**IV. DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY:**

- A. The DC, Center Administrator and RS shall have responsibility for this policy at the local and regional levels.
- B. The Vice President of Instruction, Vice President of Activities and the Vice President of Regional Administration shall have the responsibility for this policy at the national level.
- C. The President shall have oversight of this policy.

**V. ENACTMENT:**



Established: \_\_\_\_\_

Board President

Date: 2/2/96