

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

NO. 9 OF 1996

Section 22 of the Animal Welfare Act 1992 provides that the Minister may approve a variation of an approved code of practice relating to animal welfare.

Appendix 4: Commercial Horse Riding Establishments is an addition to the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses in the ACT which was approved in December 1993. The Appendix was prepared by a subcommittee of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee in consultation with relevant industry groups including equestrian associations, pony clubs and riding schools.

The ACT Animal Welfare Advisory Committee endorsed the variation to the Code of Practice for adoption in the ACT in November 1995.

The provisions of the Appendix are detailed in the Attachment.

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The purpose of the Appendix is to specify the requirements for the welfare of horses in commercial horse riding establishments within the Australian Capital Territory. These are additional requirements to those specified in the *Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses (December 1993)*

The Code details the minimum standards of accommodation, management and care that are appropriate to horses in commercial establishments.

Section 1 outlines managerial responsibilities.

Section 2 specifies requirements in relation to the equipment to be used.

Section 3 discusses nutritional requirements.

Section 4 details appropriate care for horses in commercial establishments.

Section 5 outlines health issues for commercial establishments in addition to the general requirements in the general Code.

Section 6 deals with issues of fire safety.

Section 7 requires appropriate records are kept.

Section 8 discusses staff responsibilities and training.

Section 9 acknowledges that the Code draws heavily on a NSW document.