



MOUNT CRAWFORD DRESSAGE CLUB FIRE POLICY

The Mount Crawford Dressage Club grounds are located in a high fire risk area near the Mount Crawford forest, and there is no mains or fire-fighting water available.

- The MCDC hot weather policy states that events will be cancelled when a temperature of 36C or above is forecast for the Mount Barker area or the CFS advises of catastrophic fire conditions or at the discretion of the MCDC Committee.
- During the high fire risk season, a notice is placed on the grounds entrance gate alerting competitors to the risk and reminding them to make sure they know the procedure should a fire threaten the area. One copy of safety procedure is placed on the notice board and another kept in the public address system cupboard for use by the marshal.
- During the high fire risk season, a designated committee member will monitor the Alert SA and CFS websites.
- Members and competitors should note the following information:

Most of us live in fire risk areas and even if you don't, by competing at the MCDC Grounds you will be traveling into a very high risk area.

On event days during the bushfire season, the MCDC Committee will monitor the CFS and Alert SA Websites for bushfires and keep you informed as required, but only you can make plans for your particular situation. Think about bushfires and plan ahead – for yourself traveling with your competition horse(s) and for family/animals at home.

Think about the questions you need to ask:

On a 'high risk fire danger' day, would you scratch and stay home?

What are the alternate routes between home and MCDC?

Is there somewhere you could arrange to leave your horse and float to travel home faster?

Do you have clothing on board which would offer some protection from radiant heat?

The CFS have advised us that in the event of a fire in the immediate Mount Crawford area, as long as our grass is short, we would be safer in the middle of our grounds than stopped or moving slowly on the nearby roads where trees and bush grow right up to the verges.

During a rally, if a fire is traveling towards the grounds, you will be asked to put your horse in your float to eliminate the danger of loose horses, and to drive the float away from the boundary fences if required. When horses are loaded, all gates will be opened for access.

Those who stay will need to be alert and help put out spot fires – please be prepared to use horse rugs, water or whatever means you have.

If a fire occurs anywhere while an event is in progress:

- All on the grounds are advised over the P.A. system as soon as the information is at hand.

If there is a fire threatening the Mount Crawford area:

- All on the grounds are advised over the PA system as soon as the information is at hand.

If the grounds themselves are threatened:

- The marshal will read the following bushfire emergency information kept in PA cupboard:

PA ANNOUNCEMENT IF THE GROUNDS ARE THREATENED BY A FIRE:

“There is a bushfire threatening the MCDC Grounds.

Please remain calm and put your horse on the float and move away from the boundary fences if required.

Once horses are loaded, all the gates will be opened if you do wish to leave.

If it becomes necessary, use horse rugs or whatever you have on hand to protect yourself from radiant heat, and be ready to put out spot fires”

Reviewed 2016