

# **Wildcare Events**

*Version 2 (May 2015)*

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## PURPOSE OF POLICY:-

The purpose of this Policy is to document the expectations of Wildcare Australia Inc. (“WILDCARE”) volunteers that assist at events such as fundraising events, displays, talks etc. This is to ensure that the organisation is always portrayed at a high standard and in a professional manner.

## POLICY:-

When representing WILDCARE, members are requested to adhere to the following guidelines.

### *Dress Code*

All Wildcare members participating in events should be dressed appropriately including:-

- A Wildcare Australia t-shirt
- Knee-length shorts or long trousers in a neutral colour (eg beige, brown, olive green) or denim jeans.
- All clothing should be neat, tidy and clean (e.g. no holes, tears etc)
- Clean, closed shoes must be worn at all times.
- Hair should be kept neat and tidy.
- For outdoor events, members should wear a Wildcare hat or cap.

### *Code of Conduct*

WILDCARE activities will generally have one or two people appointed as Event Coordinators for the event. All members must follow the direction of the Event Coordinator at all times.

The following guidelines should be adhered to when representing WILDCARE at any activity:-

1. Members must behave appropriately at all times.
2. Members must not swear or make derogatory comments about any person or organisation.
3. Members must not smoke cigarettes at WILDCARE displays. Smoking should be conducted in designated smoking areas as provided by event organisers.
4. Members must not consume alcohol before or during WILDCARE displays.
5. Members must not bring wildlife to the display without appropriate permission (see below).

### *Event Coordinator's Discretion*

Should the conduct of a WILDCARE member be at any time unprofessional and/or in breach of any of the above guidelines, then the Event Coordinator shall have the discretion to direct the member to leave the activity/event.

In this case, the Event Coordinator shall advise the Management Committee of the circumstances in this respect.

### *Display of Wildlife at Events*

Pursuant to the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and *Code of Practice for Volunteer Wildlife Rehabilitators*, native wildlife cannot be "displayed" without approval from the Environmental Protection Agency (EHP).

The definition "displayed" includes taking wildlife to functions (including shopping centres, fundraising events, displays, talks). It is a direct breach of the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* to "display" or "show" any wildlife that is sick, injured or orphaned.

There may be special circumstances where displaying wildlife may be considered. In these circumstances the following steps must be undertaken:-

1. A formal request must be made to the WILDCARE Management Committee via the President or Vice-President. The request should include the following information:-
  - a. Details of the event (including date, type of event, purpose, audience, length)
  - b. Details of the animal (including species, reason for care, injuries/conditions, date animal arrived into care and rehabilitation history).
2. Should the Management Committee agree to the request, the Committee shall arrange for a formal request to be made to EHP. .
3. If the request is approved, the member must ensure that all conditions placed on the use of the animal for the activity/event are strictly adhered to and shall ensure that the animal remains in a stress-free environment as much as possible.
4. The member shall ensure that they hold the original approval issued by EHP at the event.

The guidelines listed herein also apply for wildlife held by a member under a Recreational Licence.

The WILDCARE Management Committee has the discretion to approve or deny requests for wildlife to be placed on display at WILDCARE events and displays.