



## Helmets

### *Inspecting a Helmet*

For those that want to ensure they are using a compliant helmet with PONY CLUB WA, this flyer outlines information to assist.







We recommend members ensure that their helmet is compliant, and also recommend that clubs ensure that their members at rallies ride with compliant helmets. This can be done unmounted, at club sign-up days, during unmounted rallies, during horsemastership sessions etc. Inspecting helmets directly before ridden lessons, although it's good to check, may delay your lesson start time. So hence the recommendation to inspect and discuss helmet compliance at a time when ridden lesson times won't be potentially delayed.

It pays to **FIRST** take a look at your current or potential helmet. Yes, that's right, inspect your helmet inside and out – even be so daring as to peel back the lining carefully. The information on your helmet needs to be read, in order to determine if its compliant. Two pieces of information must be sought:

- a) **The Helmet Standard**, and
- b) **The Helmet Manufacture Date**

The below steps explain how to look for these two pieces of information AND a little about what they tell you about your helmet.

1. Locate the **Helmet Standard**. Helmet standards, just like published books, are released in versions with the publish year at the end. This is not the year of manufacture. This should be prominently labelled on the inside or outside of the helmet, and if not on the inner lining or inner layer of the helmet.
  - a. Take a look at the below standards. These are the currently permitted (for 2018) helmet standards for PCWA. Can you see at least one of the helmet standards of below?

Current Australian standard <b>AS/NZS 3838</b> with SAI Global mark. Standard must be 2006 version or newer. This is the year model of the standard, not the year of helmet manufacture.	
New Australian standard ARB HS with SAI Global mark. Standard must be 2012 version or newer. This is the year model of the standard, not the year of helmet manufacture.	
Current British standard <b>PAS 015</b> with BSI Kitemark. Standard must be 1998 or 2011 version or newer. This is the year model of the standard, not the year of helmet manufacture.	
Interim European Standard <b>VG1</b> with or without BSI Kitemark. Standard must be 2012 version or newer. This is the year model of the standard, not the year of helmet manufacture.	
Current American standard <b>ASTM F1163</b> with SEI mark / SNELL E2001. Standard must be 2004a version or newer. This is the year model of the standard, not the year of helmet manufacture.	
Outgoing European Standard <b>EN1384</b> with CE mark. Year of helmet manufacture 2013-2015.	



**\*12-month notice\*** As of Jan 1, 2019 all participants' helmets in Pony Club WA must be no older than 5 years – dated from the year of helmet manufacture. Clubs are recommended to perform helmet inspections at rallies. Event Organisers may wish to request participants present helmets for inspection upon collecting competition numbers or arriving at events.

- b. Just like car models have a model year (i.e. 2017), so too do helmet standards. Because they are tweaked from year to year. So if you see a year after the standard code/letters, don't worry, this is simply the year model of that helmet standard. It is not to be confused with the year of manufacture for the helmet.
- c. The EN1384 helmet is not an unsafe helmet standard. It is simply a helmet standard that in 2014, the European Standards body decided was not stringent enough. Most specifically, only tested helmet durability from a 1.5m drop. This is coincidentally the SAME drop test measurement as the AS/NZS3838 helmet standard (tests from 1.3m and 1.5m drop). Which is still fully permitted in EA and PC.

So the European Standards body have over the past 2 years been conferring on a revised EN standard. During this time, the VG1 Standard was developed and it is virtually the same as the EN1384 only it specifies helmets must pass a 1.8m drop test. It is a bridging standard in essence.


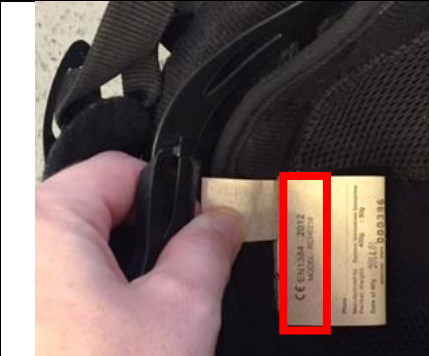
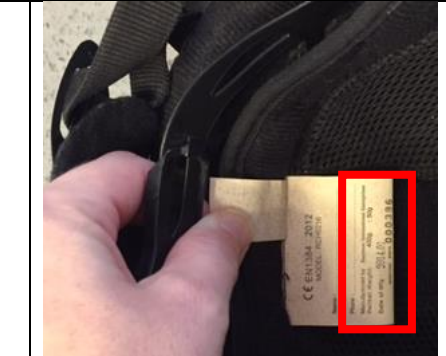
If you would like to see a direct comparison between the Australian and European helmet standards, drop a line to [gearchecking@Pony Club WA.com](mailto:gearchecking@Pony Club WA.com). We performed a literature review that compared these three helmet standards, the findings were quite surprising and form the basis for why we still permit the EN1384.

- d. If your helmet has more than one standard (i.e. two as you may find with the EN1384 and VG1), then this means the helmet meets the testing requirements for two helmet standards. This is a good thing.

Some questions have been asked about helmets with the EN1384 and VG1 standard. Because the helmet meets the VG1 standard (superior to EN1384), this second standard means the helmet meets these superior testing standards. The presence of the EN1384 with the VG1, does NOT mean the helmet is not permitted. The VG1 is a bridging standards that makes the helmet permitted.

- 2. Locate the **Helmet Manufacture Date**. *Separate to the tab or label showing the helmet standard*. PONY CLUB WA does not recommend the use of a helmet over 5 yrs of age. PONY CLUB WA also recommends reading and abiding by the manufacturer's instructions, often on a tag within the helmet or as part of product point-of-sale labelling.

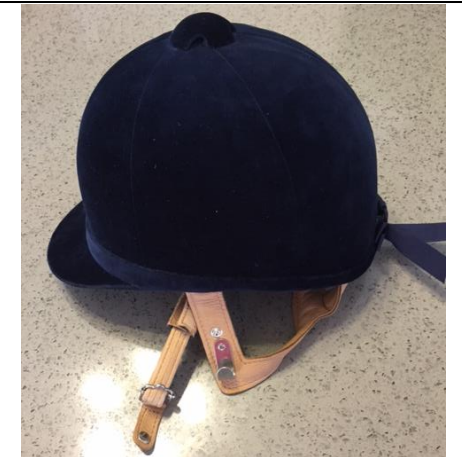


The below table pictorially walks you through finding the Helmet Standard and also the Helmet Manufacture Date.

	Helmet	Showing the applicable Helmet Standard for the Helmet	Showing the Date of Manufacture for the Helmet
1			

EN1384:2012 with CE mark

Jan 2004

*Helmet is made to a compliant standard. Year of manufacture however (2004) is not within our rules (see above list of compliant standards). **Not permitted in PONY CLUB WA for use.***

2			
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EN1384:2012 with CE mark

March 2012

*Helmet is made to a compliant standard. Year of manufacture however (2012) is not within our rules (see above list of compliant standards). **Not permitted in PONY CLUB WA for use.***

3			
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EN1384:2012 with CE mark

October 2014

*Helmet is made to a compliant standard, and is less than 5 years old  
Permitted in PONY CLUB WA for use.*