



## December 2015 News from Pony Club Australia

# New Helmet Standards

In October 2014 the CEN (European Committee for Standardization) and the EU (European) body for PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) withdrew the **EN1384 Helmet Standard** as the standard to test helmets. This standard is currently being revised by the CEN. Whilst this standard is being revised, the CEN have released a *bridging standard* for European made helmets – called the VG1.

### What has PCA done in response to this?

PCA have performed a review of the EN1384, VG1 and also the current AS/NZS 3838 helmets standards. We have compared the testing required for each standard. It would appear from this review, that the VG1 standard is superior to the EN1384 standard. This is also superior to the AS/NZS 3838 (Australian) standard. PCA therefore finds that any helmet tested and meeting the VG1 helmet standard is acceptable for use in all Pony Club activities.

### Helmet standards need to comply with the following standards

AS/NZS 3838 (AU)

PAS 015 (UK)

ASTM F 1163 (USA)

VG1 (Europe)

EN 1384 (Europe) *only acceptable for helmets made **up to and including 2015***.

### What should PC members do in response to this?

- The change above only affects members that have a European made helmet, or are considering purchasing one.
- Members are recommended to check the standard and year of manufacture for their helmet.
  - ✓ *Helmet with the EN1384 standard, made in 2015 or older, are acceptable for use in PCA.*
  - ✓ *Helmet with the EN1384 standard plus the VG1 standard, are acceptable for use in PCA.*
  - ✓ *Helmet with the VG1 standard are acceptable for use in PCA.*
  - ✗ *Helmet with the EN1384 standard made in 2016, will not be acceptable for use in PCA*
- Remember to follow the manufacturer's instructions for use, in the instance of a fall and observe its usable life. The AS/NZS 3838 standard advises that helmets meeting this criteria have a usable life of 5 years.

The Australian Government through the Australian Sports Commission recognises PCA to develop Pony Club in Australia.

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