

Overview:

The Australian Slacklining Association (ASA) Code of Conduct aims to preserve the opportunity to slackline in appropriate venues, promote conservation, promote user and bystander safety and promote productive community engagement with access issues.

At all times whilst slacklining we are ambassadors for the activity. Behaviour must always respect the environment, other recreational users, land managers and the safety of all involved.

1. Site location:

- a) Please consider other users of the area when slacklining and avoid blocking pathways, roads, etc and using areas of parks that are designated for other popular activities.
- b) It is the user's responsibility to ensure that slacklining is allowed in the specific area. Do not set up in areas where slacklining is prohibited.
- c) The area in which you are slacklining and the equipment you are using should be clearly visible to people. We would recommend the use of wind dampers/visual markers on slacklines, in particular when using longer lines.
- d) Slacklines should be attended at all times. DO NOT leave any line unattended without the landowners permission and take reasonable precautions to protect the slacklines from use by the general public.

2. Safety:

- a) The person/s setting up slacklines are responsible for them and maybe responsible for the safety of others in the area.
- b) Slacklines should not be left unattended.
- c) Equipment should be fit for purpose and inspected before each use to ensure that it is safe and in good condition. Unsafe equipment should be retired. Equipment should be constantly inspected throughout the session.
- d) Only use appropriate anchors capable of withstanding the relevant loads.
- e) Ratchet style tensioners must be backed up (can be done with the tail of the walking line).
- f) Highlining is any slackline rigged at a height that requires a harness and leash to be used to prevent injury. This should only be done with experienced riggers that understand current best practise and are using highline-specific equipment. Do not attempt to try this without proper training and supervision.
- g) Highliners must always be aware of the potential of objects falling onto people below and taking the necessary precautions to keep all users in the nearby area safe.

3. Rigging on Trees:

- a) Living trees with a diameter of at least 30cm should be used.
- b) Ensure adequate tree protection is ALWAYS used where the anchor material touches the tree.
- c) Wide slings, such as Industrial lifting slings (aka spansets) can help distribute the load by increasing surface area.
- d) Never rig off Heritage Listed or culturally significant trees without prior consent.

4. Environment:

- a) Slackliners must remove all rubbish from the site, being mindful of the use of electrical tape on highlines.
- b) All slacklining should be done in a manner that enhances the area, maintaining a strict 'Leave no Trace' ethic.
- c) Avoid disturbing any sensitive flora and fauna.
- d) Restraint should be shown when installing fixed hardware. Fixed anchors shall be comply with the ASA Fixed Anchor Guidelines.
- e) Slackliners must observe best toileting practices when in the wilderness. Toileting facilities shall always be first preference, even if this means a walk. When not available, waste must be buried greater than 15cm deep over 100m from any waterways. In some areas this will be impractical and slackliners will need to carry their waste out to be correctly disposed of.
- f) All regulations and directions put in place by land managers must be complied with and all behaviour is consistent with best practise low impact recreational user groups.
- g) All infrastructure(posts, fences, signs etc) must be left as it was found.

References and additional Resources:

International Slackline Association - <https://data.slacklineinternational.org/>

Slackline.US - <https://slackline.us/tree-protection/>

UK Slackline Association - <http://ukslackline.com/>