

AUSTRALIAN SLACKLINE ASSOCIATION

# CODE OF CONDUCT



**Australian  
Slacklining  
Association**

VERSION 2.1  
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## **Slackliners Code of Conduct**

### **General**

The Australian Slacklining Association (ASA) Code of Conduct aims to preserve the opportunity to slackline in appropriate venues and environments, promote conservation, ensure 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.

### **Safety**

1. The person/s setting up slacklines are responsible for their own safety and may also be responsible for the safety of others in the area.
2. Slacklines should not be left unattended.
3. 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.
4. Only use appropriate anchors capable of withstanding the relevant loads.
5. Ratchet style tensioners must be backed up (can be done with the tail of the walking line). Also any Slackline using high forces must have a backup system.
6. 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.
7. Highliners must always be aware of the potential of objects falling onto people below and take the necessary precautions to keep all users in the nearby area safe.

### **Environmental Impact and Conduct**

Remember that all plants, animals and organic matter are protected in reserves and Parks. The following guidelines must be observed by slackliners to ensure that the cliff environment suffers minimal impact:

1. Stay on existing tracks to prevent erosion and damage to plants and animals. Where this is not possible, take a moment to decide which path is the most appropriate to have minimal impact.
2. Try to avoid steep access and descent tracks which will be intrinsically more prone to erosion, especially with larger groups.

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3. Wherever possible, choose sites that have a rocky base and top that can tolerate groups without causing vegetation damage and erosion.
4. Avoid disturbing flora and fauna.
5. Observe and practice best toileting practices. When in the wilderness, whenever possible, use toilet facilities, and when this is not practicable, waste must be buried greater than 15cm deep and at least 100m from any waterways.
6. Practice Leave no Trace ethic; carry your rubbish out with you and pick up what you find on the way.
7. Restraint should be shown when installing fixed hardware. Fixed anchors shall comply with the ASA Fixed Anchor Guidelines.
8. 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.
9. All infrastructure (posts, fences, signs etc.) must be left as found.
10. Do not block footpaths with equipment.
11. Be respectful of other groups, individuals and recreational users of the area.
12. If you see other practitioners making a mistake (e.g. Not use tree protection), approach them respectfully and offer advice.

### **Rigging on trees**

1. Only use living trees with a diameter of at least 30cm.
2. Ensure adequate tree protection is ALWAYS used where the anchor material touches the tree.
3. Wide slings, such as industrial lifting slings (aka spansets) can help distribute the load by increasing surface area.
4. Never rig off heritage listed or culturally significant trees without prior consent from land owners/managers.

### **References and additional Resources:**

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

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

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

*QLD Rock Climbing Association* - <http://www.qldclimb.org.au>