

# the **RED CUP** Q&A



**separating alcohol fact from fiction**  
EVERY TUESDAY IN THE DAILY WILDCAT

## **Q Can you get a DUI on a horse?**

**A.** It depends upon how drunk the horse is. Or, if you live near “Filly.”

Whoever started the myth that you could get a DUI riding a horse mustang out with the wrong people. Some people are so saddle they’ll tell you lies. They are such neigh-sayers. Hay, stop!

Sorry, we here at the Red Cup Q&A couldn’t help ourselves and we’ll try to rein in the puns, not bale on the answer, harness our collective wisdom, and trot out some truth.

The Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) for DUI specifically specifies that it is unlawful for a person to be in control of a vehicle under the influence of drugs or alcohol. The key word here is “vehicle,” and the ARS definition of vehicle excludes those devices moved by human power. Giddyup. This not only means that you can’t get a DUI in AZ while on a horse but also means that you can’t get a DUI while riding on your bicycle. However, you could get a DUI on a motorized bike. This makes horse sense.

Though you might avoid getting a DUI riding on a horse or a bike while inebriated, you still run the risk of other legal citations. Police officers can give you a ticket for reckless behavior, public intoxication, and a MIP if underage. Their mane concern is public, human, and animal safety and endangerment. Additionally, if caught by an officer riding a horse or bike under the influence, you can still expect to undergo a breathalyzer test which could result in a citation, fines, and community service. Quite the night-mare.

Lasso but not least, we invite you to submit your questions about alcohol and other drugs to the Red Cup Q&A to be answered by our stable of UA Campus Health Service staff.



**wildfact**

**Unlike inebriated humans, horses can’t vomit.**



**Got a question about alcohol?**

Email it to [redcup@email.arizona.edu](mailto:redcup@email.arizona.edu)



[www.health.arizona.edu](http://www.health.arizona.edu)

The Red Cup Q&A is written by Lynn Reyes, LCSW, LSAC, David Salafsky, MPH, Lee Ann Hamilton, MA, CHES, and Spencer Gorin, RN, in the Health Promotion and Preventive Services (HPPS) department of the UA Campus Health Service.