

Dress Code & Consent Policy

Sydney Leather Men Inc.

November 2025

Dress Code

As our name suggests, leather is at the heart of what we do! While we've embraced a more relaxed approach for many of our social events, where leather is encouraged but not essential to encourage a wider participation, we reaffirm our ongoing commitment and preference to a 'Major' piece dress code that also honours the past and importantly our vision.

Leather and Denim began as a movement inspired stylistically by biker clubs and was largely influenced by Marlon Brando's character in the 1953 film *The Wild One*. The Leather and Denim appearance became popular among gay men, who used it to reject the stereotype that homosexual men were "effeminate." Leather and Denim started appearing in mainstream media as early as the 1970s with 'Cruising', the movie with Al Pacino. In the '80s and '90s, artists like Tom of Finland, Robert Mapplethorpe, continued to showcase it and stylise it as the look of masculinity and sex appeal.

Our dress code honours that history and culture and we are committed to preserving that legacy.

Our Base Minimum Standard: One Major Piece

Leather, Denim, Uniform and Boots are our preferred attire.

At most SLM events, members are expected to wear a minimum of one major piece of leather.

Guests, newcomers, and first-timers are welcome regardless of whether they own leather yet, connecting comes first, gear comes in time.

We encourage new members to borrow from the community, ask for help, and build their leather wardrobe when they feel ready.

As our name suggests, leather is not a costume — it's part of who we are.

Seasonal Flexibility

We recognise the realities of warmer weather. Members are encouraged to wear weather-appropriate leather or denim pieces that remain true to the spirit of our community.

Gear is not a signal — it is self-expression.

Consent

At the core of SLM is a commitment to a culture of consent.

Consent applies to all interactions, physical or verbal.

Explicit Consent

- Nothing is assumed. Always ask.
- Permission must be clear, verbal, and enthusiastic.

Ongoing Consent

- Consent is not permanent.
- It can be changed or withdrawn at any time, without explanation.

Informed Consent

- Both parties must fully understand what they are agreeing to.

No Touching Without Consent

- Wearing leather, showing skin, or being in fetish gear does not equal consent.

Consent Education

- We discuss consent openly and reinforce it at events, so expectations remain clear.

Consequences

Consent violations are taken extremely seriously. Consequences may include:

- being removed from the event or venue,
- suspension of membership,
- permanent removal from SLM.

Consent is non-negotiable.

In Summary

- **Dress Code:** Leather is our identity. Wear a major piece where required.
- **Consent:** Clothing does not equal permission. Always ask. Always respect the answer.

Gear up. Show up. Connect — with respect.

SYDNEY
LEATHER
MEN
INC.

DRESS CODE

SLM INC IS A LEATHER, DENIM, UNIFORM AND BOOTS CLUB.

DRESS CODE - MINIMUM ONE MAJOR PIECE PREFERRED.

This Dress Code Applies Unless Otherwise Stated.

MAJOR LEATHER PIECES

Pants	Breeches	Chaps	Shorts	Kilt
Shirt	Bar Vests	Jackets	Uniforms*	Apron

*Uniforms (Leather or Other) should be considered in accordance with our code of conduct.

NOT CONSIDERED MAJOR PIECES

Encouraged to accessorise with one or more Major pieces.

Jockstraps	Arm/Wristbands	Braces	Collars	Denim*
Hoods/Masks	Caps/Hats	Harness	Sam Browns	Boots

*Denim When Combined With Leather Boots, Leather Belt and any Leather Accessories Is An Acceptable Dress Code.

ATTIRE DISCOURAGED

Rubber, Lycra & Neoprene (Unless Worn with Leather)
No Casual/Athletic Shoes or Sportswear.

DRESS CODE EXEMPTIONS APPLY FOR NEW ATTENDEE'S & FIRSTIMERS.