



RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

AMENDMENTS TO RULES OF RACING

Amendments to Local Rules effective 7 August 2018

Amendments to Local Rule 80J

Recently amendments were made to the RWAA Rules of Harness Racing in relation to training partnerships.

During the review of training partnership rules within Harness it was identified that there are issues that arise in the event of a breach of the rules for which disqualification should apply as it has consequences for both licence holders (namely the vicarious disqualification of them both) which is problematical and difficult to reconcile and enforce. That would be exponentially exacerbated by creating a situation where two 'innocent' parties are vicariously disqualified for the actions of another in relation to the training of one of the horses in the partnership.

The review of the Harness related rules identified that the following amendments are required to the current Thoroughbred Local Rule 80J as follows;

1. Add sub-rule LR80J (3)(d) that states: "*That neither applicant trains any horses as an individual or in any other training partnership*"
2. Add the following sub-rules

(9) Where a there has been a breach of the Rules by one or both of the trainers training in partnership or a penalty imposed against either, then both trainers shall be deemed jointly severally responsible and may be charged and penalised or have any penalty that is imposed on one of the parties apply equally to both.

(10) Where a penalty has been imposed by another Controlling Body upon one or both of the trainers in a training partnership, then both trainers shall be deemed jointly and severally responsible for the purposes of adoption or recognition of that punishment in accordance with these rules.

(11) Sub-rules (9) and (10) do not apply where, in the opinion of the Stewards, the relevant breach or punishment imposed does not relate directly to the training of horses.

(12) Upon receipt from either partner of an intention to withdraw from or dissolve the partnership the Stewards may order that any horse trained by the partnership shall not be eligible to race until the Stewards are satisfied that the horse is being trained in accordance with the rules.

Such amendments will provide for consistency between the codes and address the short comings identified when reviewing the Harness related rules.

Amendments to Local Rule 93E

This rule was implemented when the 4kg apprentices claim was initially introduced and was intended to prevent 4kg apprentice riders from riding at Saturday Metro meetings. At the time it was identified that



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meetings such as Kalgoorlie Cup, Bunbury Stakes etc., being listed races made the meeting more like a Prime meeting. Boulder Cup was excluded as it is a listed race, but the meeting was not high profile.

Upon review, it is noted that where there are Group and Listed races programmed at non Metropolitan Prime Meetings. These meetings do not have the intensity/profile that they once had. Consequently there is little extra hype/pressure in the supporting races as they tend to be maidens and lower level races at these provincial meetings. The rule has led to a number of occasions where a 4kg apprentice has had to forego a ride on a horse that he or she usually rides which is seen as unfair and has led to criticism from trainers.

The rule has therefore been amended as follows to allow the option for apprentices who have not ridden a minimum of five winners to make application to stewards to be granted permission to ride at non Metropolitan Prime Race Meetings, on a horse by horse basis, where Group or Listed Races, are programmed;

L.R. 93E.

- (1) Any apprentice may ride in any race without having obtained a jockey's licence if he shall have obtained permission to ride in races from the Principal Racing Authority.*
- (2) Such approval by the Principal Racing Authority to ride in races may be restricted to classes of race or venues.*
- (3) An apprentice rider must have ridden a minimum of five (5) winners before applying to the Stewards for permission to ride at Metropolitan Prime Meetings.*
- (4) For the purposes of this rule a Metropolitan Prime Meeting shall be any race meeting where equivalent Saturday base stakes are paid.*
- (5) An apprentice rider who has not ridden a minimum of five (5) winners cannot ride at any Race Meeting, where a Group or Listed race is programmed, unless that meeting is not designated as a Metropolitan Prime Meeting and he has been granted permission by the Stewards to ride at that meeting.*

Amendments to Local Rule 117

Part 1 of this rule formerly required all horses to be on course 1 hour prior to the advertised starting time which applied to the vast majority of races. For Group and Listed races, the Stewards previously arranged for the Racing Department to send a text message for each individual race to all trainers with runners in such races requiring them to have their horse/s on course 2 hours prior to the advertised starting time. The requirement to have horses on course two hours before starting time, for Group and Listed races, is now incorporated into the amended rule.

Part 2 of the rule was considered to be outdated given that it was introduced when trainers paid the fee to start a horse on the day to the Club Secretary whereas now it is controlled through RWAA Finance Department and trainers are sent electronic accounts on a monthly basis. Further, horses are checked on arrival by the horse gate attendant and Stewards are notified when a horse is not on course.

Accordingly, to modernise the rule, it has been amended to read as follows;

L.R.117.

- (1) In accordance with AR117 (1) unless the trainer has been otherwise instructed, any horse engaged to race is required to be brought to the on-course stalls area no later than one hour*



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prior to the advertised start time of such race except for all Group and Listed races where such requirement is no later than two hours.

- (2) The trainer, or person nominated by the trainer to be in charge of any horse engaged to race is required to notify the Secretary of the Club conducting the meeting or the Stewards as soon as practicable if they are unable to have their horse in the on-course stalls area by the prescribed time.*

These amendments will require trainers to ensure that they are aware of presentation time requirements for all races and that they have a responsibility to advise if they are delayed for any reason and are unable to be on-course when required.