



AMENDMENT TO AUSTRALIAN RULES OF RACING

Five clear day rule for vaccinations

Summary:

There is no restriction on how close to race day a vaccine may be given to a horse.

Equine vaccines are known to produce transient local and systemic reactions following their administration, and a prohibition from starting within a specified period after their administration should be introduced.

As a vaccinated horse could present performance and integrity concerns, it is undesirable to have horses in competition inside a specified period before such vaccinations.

Consequently, Racing Australia has decided that a five clear day rule be introduced with an additional provision that vaccinations be included in the horse's treatment record. Prior permission of the Stewards could be sought for administering a dose of vaccine to a horse within the five clear day period only for the purpose of facilitating international travel, such vaccination being notified publicly.

1. Amend AR.64N as follows:

“AR.64N. (1) A trainer must not, without the express permission of the Principal Racing Authority (or the Stewards exercising powers delegated to them), enter or permit a horse that has been administered a dose of vaccine against, including but not limited to, equine herpesvirus 1 and 4, equine influenza, Hendra virus, strangles or tetanus, to participate in any race during the five clear days (as defined in AR.1) following midnight on the day the dose of vaccine was administered.

(2) A trainer must ensure a record of any administration of a dose of vaccine is included in the trainer's record of treatment for such horse in accordance with the requirements of AR.178(F)(1).

(3) Where a horse has been administered a dose of vaccine, or the Stewards reasonably suspect that a horse has been administered a dose of vaccine, during the five clear days prior to the day of a race, the Stewards may order the withdrawal of the horse from the relevant race.

(4) Any trainer who breaches AR.64N(1) or AR.64N(2) may be penalised.

Note: For the purpose of AR.64N and by way of example, if a horse was subjected to a vaccine administration at any time on a Monday (1st day of month), that horse would be ineligible to race until the following Sunday (7th day of month).”

Date of effect in Western Australia: 1 November, 2016