

RWWA AGED HORSE POLICY

Applying to Thoroughbred and Standardbred race horses 12 years old and over in both races and trials.

1. A Thoroughbred horse that is aged 12 years is not permitted to race unless, as required in AR.45B the Stewards give their express permission, after the trainer provides to the Stewards a veterinary report in respect of the horse's condition and suitability to race, and any other examination or report required by the Stewards, and the Stewards are satisfied that the horse is suitable to race.
2. Each horse 12 years old and over that is accepted will be formally flagged to Stewards at acceptance time.
3. An Aged Horse Report will be provided in the race day documents for the official race day Veterinary Surgeon to complete.
4. The Veterinary Surgeon will examine such horse upon arrival on course, and complete the pre-race examination section indicating the horse's general state of health, fitness and soundness.
5. In the event that the Veterinary Surgeon is of the opinion that the horse examined is unsound, not fit or capable of performing competitively, they will report this to the Steward in charge of the meeting immediately.
6. The Veterinary Surgeon will examine such horse post-race, and complete the post-race examination section indicating the horse's general state of health, fitness and soundness.
7. The Steward in charge of the meeting will then complete the section recording the performance of the horse.
8. The Aged Horse Report will be filed with the Chief Steward and this record will form part of a continual assessment of the aged horses performance and soundness. Where ongoing fitness, soundness or competitiveness issues occur Stewards will discuss the horses racing future with the trainer/connections of the horse. Where Stewards are of the opinion that the welfare of the horse is at risk, or the horse is not performing competitively, consideration must be given to retiring that horse.

Thoroughbred horses reaching 13 years of age

In accordance with AR.45B no Thoroughbred horse that is 13 years of age or older will be eligible to compete in any race, official trial, or be trained, in Western Australia.

Standardbred horses reaching 14 years of age

No Standardbred horse that is 14 years of age or older will be eligible to compete in any race or official trial in Western Australia.

Policy added Feb 2009 - amended 3 August 2015