



RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

RWWA TRACK INSPECTIONS POLICY

PRE-SEASON INSPECTIONS

1. The following racetracks - Albany, Ascot, Belmont, Bunbury, Esperance, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie, Mt. Barker, Narrogin, Northam, Pinjarra, and York, are to be inspected by RWWA Steward/s, RWWA Operations' nominee and Club representatives at least six (6) to eight (8) weeks prior to first race meeting.

The purpose of the pre-season inspection is to assess the primary suitability for the commencement of racing, commensurate with the status and degree of racing at the venue.

2. The RWWA Steward/s at the completion of inspection to provide a comprehensive report to be submitted to RWWA GM Racing Integrity [GMRI] (copy to General Manager Racing [GMR]).

The reports prime purpose is to;

- Advise the condition of track generally
- Highlighting any problem seen as a serious concern that has the potential to prevent the race meeting from proceeding.
- Where appropriate, provide indication of minimum level/standard required to overcome problem.
- Indicate any OHS matters identified through the inspection

Any concerns flagged at this point will be conveyed to the Clubs by the GMRI in writing by forwarding a copy of the Stewards report and a covering letter addressing what is needed to bring the track up to a standard fit for racing.

3. Where deemed appropriate or necessary by the Stewards, racetracks will be again inspected by RWWA Stewards, a RWWA Operations' nominee, RWWA CAP Manager, WA Jockeys' Association and Club representatives between three (3) and four (4) weeks prior to race day. The date of the second inspection will be determined by the Stewards in consultation with the GMRI.
4. It is the responsibility of the GMRI to ensure appropriate notification is made to the club with regard to approval or that approval to race has not been granted and the details of any further concerns/work that is required. Where approval is not given, the RWWA Steward/s will determine a date for a final inspection, if applicable, or may deem a track is passed fit for racing subject to minor work being carried out to their satisfaction. Should the Stewards determine that the track will not be fit for racing on the allotted date the GMRI will be advised immediately and if satisfied he will direct the Club to contact the Manager Racing Services to negotiate a position eg. Delayed date for opening, racing at another venue etc.
5. All other racetracks, (not referred to in point 1. above) to be the responsibility of the Steward in charge of the race meeting, who in the normal course of events, would check the state of the track with the Club concerned prior to the first race meeting along the lines as outlined in the points above.



RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

DURING RACING SEASON

6. In the week leading up to a race meeting, the Club Secretary/Manager and Racecourse curator must be in close contact with the Stewards in relation to the current state of the track and upcoming weather conditions. This includes the completion in full of the RWWA Race Day Report.
7. **If there is any doubt whatsoever** surrounding the race meeting being able to proceed, be it rainfall, soft/bare patches on the track, any surface water within 24-hours of a racemeeting, reticulation issues, forecast of extreme weather conditions, or other unusual circumstance, the Club Secretary/Manager or Racecourse Manager **must contact** RWWA Stewards **immediately upon such coming to their attention** who will then arrange for a RWWA Steward to inspect the track.
8. The RWWA Stewards shall advise the Manager Racing Services and/or GMRI of the issue and impending inspection so that contingency planning can be commenced.
9. All inspections should be made as soon as practicable upon notification of a potential issue. Where the issue is arising as a result of an overnight event, every attempt should be made to inspect the track and reach a decision on the ability of the meeting to proceed prior to 7.30am.
10. The Inspection must be conducted by a RWWA Steward or appointed delegate, the Club Secretary/Manager, Track Manager/curator and local senior rider. Consideration may be given where practical to request a local trainer to provide a horse to work on the track for the purpose of assessing the safety of the track. In some instances the conditions of the track may preclude this.
11. **At all times, the final decision as to the suitability of the track rests with the officiating RWWA Steward.** The Committee of a Race Club can, however, postpone or abandon a race meeting without the need for inspection by RWWA Stewards where it is clear that there is no possibility for racing to be safely conducted.
12. If after inspection the RWWA Steward deems the track unsuitable for racing this must immediately be made clear to the Club Secretary/Manager, RWWA Manager Racing Services and suitable notification given to industry and media.
13. Further information with regard to postponement, abandonment or transfer shall be at the discretion of RWWA Racing Operations, in communications and consultation with the Club.
14. Regardless of circumstance, twenty four hours prior to all Feature/Cup meetings at all venues, RWWA Stewards or their delegate shall conduct a track inspection and apply the principles within as required.



RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

POST RACING SEASON

15. In relation to End of Season reports, including issues relating to tracks, equipment, buildings, asset infrastructure, ohs etc. these must be submitted by the officiating Stewards within 1-month of the end of season, detailing any specific concerns which the Stewards believe need addressing in the off season. These reports will be directed in the first instance to the GMRI who will consider the merits of the Steward's advice and provide notification in writing to the Club with regard to the matters that require attention before next season, attaching the Stewards report.
16. The RWWA Stewards, from time to time, may provide a written report to the GMRI on any issue involving the club they may deem appropriate in respect to issues such as safety, working conditions, suggestions for improvements etc. and these will be referred by the GMRI to the Club and GMR for investigation and action, if applicable.
17. As part of the pre-season inspection process, Stewards will also confirm that any issues identified within the End of Season reports have been suitably addressed. Matters identified as OHS risks, or other high priority items must be addressed in order to be given approval to race. Any difficulties in meeting these requirements should be brought to the attention of the GMRI immediately. Failure to address these matters may lead to transfer of race dates until such time as these issues are addressed.

Clubs with multiple matters arising from End of Season reports will be contacted well in advance of the new season with consideration given to Stewards attending the venue to inspect that work has been completed as required and providing advice and consultation to address outstanding issues.

18. Inspections of Official Thoroughbred Training Centres eg. Lark Hill to be inspected prior to the commencement of each racing/licence season.