Regulations

Relevant to the RWWA Rules of Harness Racing 2004

NOTE: The Regulation number corresponds to the Rule number.
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REGULATIONS
Racing and Wagering Western Australia (RWWA)

These regulations are to be read in conjunction with the RWWA Rules of Harness Racing 2004.

Reg.23. Nominations and clearances
(1) Nominations shall be lodged with Racing Services in accordance with the advertised racing program.
(2) If the last race of a nominated horse was outside the jurisdiction of RWWA it must receive clearance from the Controlling Body of the place where that race occurred.

Reg.85. Record of time requirements
(1) A record can only be made in a public race or performance against time, and the horse must pace or trot according to the rules.
(2) The race or performance against time shall be started by an officially appointed starter. The time shall be taken by 3 timekeepers or one timekeeper and an approved electronic timing device. The race or performance against time shall be supervised by the stewards or judge officially appointed by RWWA.
(3) The record of the race or performance against time must be signed by the starter, the timekeepers and/or electronic timing operator, the steward or judge and forwarded to Racing Services who, in turn, will forward it to the Australian Harness Racing Council for inclusion or otherwise in the official list.
(4) In every official race, or performance against time, the time taken shall be placed in the record in minutes, seconds and tenths of seconds.
(5) When the timekeepers fail to act or agree no official time shall be announced or recorded unless the time has been taken by an approved electronic device in which case the latter time shall be announced and recorded.
(6) In the event that the time taken by the official timekeepers shall differ from that taken by an electronic timing device the later time shall prevail and be regarded as the official time for announcement and entry into the record unless it is shown that the electronic timing device has failed, when the time taken by the official timekeepers shall be the official time.

Reg.85.1. Record of time sulkies, gear and equipment
In order that a race or performance against time may be recognised as official, only approved types of sulkies shall be used. The use of wheel discs shall be optional but the equipment and gear used on the horse shall be orthodox and such as is normally used by the horse that is racing.

Reg.85.2. Record of time track measurement requirements
In order that a race or performance against time may be recognised as official, every Club not having already done so, shall provide the Chief Steward with the certificate of a licensed civil engineer or land surveyor that he has measured the track in accordance with Rule 5.

Reg.90. Drivers licence
(1) Application for a drivers licence Grades A, B or C shall be made on a New Licence Application – Harness form.
(2) A Grade C licence shall not be granted to a person younger than 15 years and a Grade B or Grade A licence shall not be granted to a person younger than 16 years.
(3) Unless the material is already on file with RWWA an applicant for a drivers licence of each grade shall furnish with the application -

(a) two recent passport photographs;
(b) certified extract of birth;
(c) the applicant’s police certificate.

(4) RWWA at any time may request an applicant or licensee to furnish further copies of the material mentioned in sub-reg. (3).

(5) An applicant for a driver’s licence shall be interviewed by the stewards.

(6) A successful applicant will be issued with a licence card or document by RWWA which must be produced to the stewards or persons authorised by RWWA on demand.

(7) An applicant or licensee shall immediately notify Licensing and Registrations of any change to personal particulars.

(8) It is a condition of a Grade C driver licence that all units from the Racing Training Package specified by RWWA shall be completed satisfactorily within 12-months of the issue of the licence. *(amended March 2010)*

(9) A Grade C driver licence will not be upgraded unless the provisions of sub-reg. (8) have been complied with.

(10) The holder of a drivers licence -

(a) Grade C, is licensed to:

(i) drive at trials, shows, gymkhanas;
(ii) under the supervision or instructions of a licensed trainer carry out track work on registered tracks;
(iii) assist with the training, management, care and control of horses;
(iv) assist with pre-race preparation of and post race procedures affecting a horse, including driving a horse during the horses pre-race warm-up.

A Grade C driver is not licensed to drive a horse during the horses immediate pre-race preliminary,

(b) Grade B, has the driving licence rights mentioned in (a) and is licensed to drive at graduation meetings and, other than in races of a metropolitan class, at country or provincial meetings, including country or provincial class meetings at metropolitan sites;

(c) Grade A, has the driving licence rights mentioned in (a) and (b) and is licensed to drive at any meeting.

(11) The holder of a drivers licence who, on expiration of the licence, desires to make application for a new licence of the same grade may make such application on a Licence Renewal Application - Harness

(12) The holder of a drivers licence Grade C who desires to upgrade to a Grade B licence shall make application in writing. Such application must include a Statement of Attainment from a Registered Training Organisation indicating that the applicant has satisfactorily completed all relevant units from the Racing Training Package. *(amended March 2010)*

(13) The holder of a drivers licence Grade B who desires to upgrade to a Grade A licence, shall make application in writing.

(14) If required by RWWA an applicant for a driver’s licence shall pay as directed a sum to effect insurance relating to the applicant in such amount and of such type as RWWA may decide.
Reg.90.1. Trainers licence

(1) Application for a trainers licence Grades C, B or A shall be made on a New Licence Application – Harness form.

(2) A trainer’s licence will not be granted to a person younger than 18 years.

(3) Regulations 90 (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (10), (13) and (14) apply equally to an applicant for a trainer’s licence, a licensed trainer and a trainer’s licence, as the case may be.

(4) An applicant for a trainer’s licence must furnish 2 written references from licensed trainers with the application and must own, lease or otherwise have available for use stables which in the opinion of the stewards or investigator are suitable for the training of standardbred horses.

(5) If required by RWWA evidence shall be furnished of the financial capacity of an applicant for a trainer’s licence to operate a training establishment.

(6) An applicant for a trainer’s licence Grade A must have satisfactorily completed all units as specified by RWWA from the Racing Training Package and held such licence for not less than 12 months unless RWWA decides otherwise. Such application must include a Statement of Attainment from a Registered Training Organisation indicating that the applicant has satisfactorily completed all relevant units from the Racing Training Package. (amended March 2010)

(7) The holder of a trainer’s licence -
   (a) Grade C, is licensed to prepare, educate and exercise a horse, but cannot trial it or nominate it to race.
   (b) Grade B, is licensed to train a horse which the person owns or partly owns or which is owned by the person’s spouse, other domestic partner, parent, sibling or child, or any horse approved by the Controlling Body upon the written application of the person. (amended Mar 13)
   (c) Grade A, is licensed to train any horse.

(8) RWWA may grant a trainers licence to a person to train only in partnership.
   (a) The partnership shall not comprise more that two people.
   (b) Each partner must hold the same grade of trainers licence.
   (c) Each partner shall be subject to any disability, fine, suspension, disqualification or other penalty that may be imposed under the rules on any partner.

Reg.90.2. Stable hands licence

(1) Application for a stable hand’s licence shall be made on a New Licence Application – Harness form.

(2) A stable hand’s licence shall not be granted to a person younger than 15 years. (amended IAC 18/3/19)

(3) Regulations 90 (3), (4), (6), (7), (10) and (14) apply equally to an applicant for a stable hand’s licence, a licensed stable hand and a stable hand’s licence, as the case may be.

(4) The holder of a stable hands licence is licensed, under the supervision or instructions of a licensed trainer, to carry out track work if also approved to drive by the controlling body, assist with the training, management, care and control of horses and assist with pre-race preparation of, and post race procedures affecting, a horse. (updated Mar 2011)

(5) All stable hand licences shall if renewed upon expiry on 31 August 2010, be made current until 1 April 2012 and will thereafter be subject to renewal every 2-years unless otherwise determined by the Controlling Body. (added 05/10)

Reg.90.3. Studmasters and artificial breeding technicians licence

(1) Application for a studmaster’s licence or an artificial breeding technician’s licence shall be made in the form approved by RWWA.
(2) A licence referred to in sub-reg. (1) will not be granted to a person younger than 18 years.

(3) Regulations 90 (3), (4) and (7) apply equally to an applicant for a studmaster’s licence or an artificial breeding technician’s licence, a person holding either licence, and to either licence, as the case may be.

(4) The holder of a studmaster’s licence is licensed -

(a) to take responsibility for the care and control of horses at a stud;

(b) to take responsibility for breeding activities at a stud other than those for which an artificial breeding technician is responsible.

(5) The holder of an artificial breeding technician’s licence who is a registered veterinary surgeon is licensed to carry out all techniques and procedures of artificial breeding.

(6) The holder of an artificial breeding technician’s licence who is not a registered veterinary surgeon is licensed to carry out all techniques and procedures of artificial breeding apart from those relating to embryo transfer.

(7) The holder of an artificial breeding technician’s licence may hold and deal with semen collected from a stallion not standing in Australia during the breeding season.

Reg.90.4. Licensing medical standards

(1) An applicant who fails to satisfy the medical requirements attaching to a licence may be licensed to perform such activities as RWWA deems appropriate.

(2) Sub reg. (1) does not apply to an applicant for a driver’s licence.

(3) An applicant for a licence must submit to an examination by a qualified medical practitioner in accordance with the RWWA Confidential Licence/Permit Medical History & Examination Report and provide the Examining Practitioner’s declaration of fitness to hold the licence applied for (Part A & B of the Report). The cost of the examination will be borne by the applicant.

(4) At the discretion of the Stewards, the full report may be reviewed by a Medical Officer approved by RWWA who may if necessary consult with the doctor who signed the declaration of fitness.

(5) If deemed necessary by the Stewards an applicant may be required to undergo further tests and or examinations at any time after the issue of a licence.

(6) An applicant will be responsible for any costs incurred by RWWA associated with the reports and examinations referred to in sub-reg. (4) and (5).

(7) Medical Reports are required for drivers at each renewal and for trainers and stable hands aged 50yrs and over at each renewal and for trainers and stable hands who have not attained the age of 50yrs at every four years. (amended July 2010)

Reg.90.5. Drivers Agent (added Mar 2012)

(1) Application for a drivers agent licence shall be made on a Harness Drivers Agent New Licence Application form.

(2) No person shall act in the capacity of drivers agent unless he has been licensed in that capacity.

(3) With the exception of licensed stablehands, no person otherwise licensed may be licensed as a drivers agent.

(4) No driver shall authorise any person to be his drivers agent unless such person has been licensed in that capacity.

(5) Any drivers agent who without the permission of the Stewards enters any restricted area on a racecourse on raceday may be removed therefrom and may be penalised.
(6) RWWA shall publish in its Racing Calendar a list of persons it has licensed as drivers agents.

Reg.95. Naming horse information required on applications

Every application for a name, rename or registration shall contain the following information:

(1) if it is a foreign horse the name under which it is known;
(2) if it is unnamed and has not been previously named or registered under another name, 6 proposed names for the horse;
(3) the age of the horse including, where known, the actual date on which it was foaled;
(4) gait of the horse;
(5) the colour, sex and distinguishing marks and brands of the horse;
(6) the names of the sire and dam of the horse;
(7) the name and address of the breeder of the horse;
(8) the names and addresses of the owner and all other persons (if any) having any interest in the horse;
(9) such other particulars as RWWA may from time to time require; and
(10) the signatures of such persons as are specified by RWWA.

Reg.107. Horse owned by minor

(1) RWWA will not approve the issue of a registration assessment certificate for any horse owned wholly by a person under the age of 18 years.

(2) RWWA may approve the issue of a registration assessment certificate for a horse partly owned by a person under the age of 18 years, provided that:

(a) an undertaking is lodged by a parent or guardian accepting full responsibility for such person under the age of 18 years; and
(b) the person under the age of 18 years of age is not the first named co-owner or manager of the horse. [amended by IAC March 2008]

Reg.133. Horse omitted from handicaps or draw for barrier positions

(1) If, after the declaration of acceptances for a race, it is the opinion of the stewards that an error or omission on the part of an employee of RWWA caused a horse properly nominated for the race to be omitted from the handicaps and/or not correctly included in the draw for barrier position, the horse may be included in the handicaps and/or draw for barrier positions under the provisions of this regulation.

(2) A horse included in the handicaps under the provision of sub-reg. (1) shall be considered by the handicapper in accordance with the field selection criteria set down by RWWA.

(3) In the event of a horse included in a race under the provisions of sub-reg. (1) causing a horse already declared as an acceptor for the race to be balloted the following will apply:

(a) Where the barrier draw condition for the race is preferential the included horse’s barrier shall be determined from the total number of barrier positions from which the horse is entitled to start and the barrier of the horse previously drawn in that position and all horses drawn outside the included horse shall move out one barrier position.

(b) Where the barrier draw condition for the race is random the included horse’s barrier shall be determined by a random draw and the horse previously drawn in that position and all horses drawn outside the included horse shall move out one barrier position.

(Sub-rule (3) amended by IAC July 2010 and 11 Sep 2019)

(4) Allocation of barrier position to the horse included in the race and/or the draw for barrier positions under the provision of sub-reg. (1) shall be in accordance with the conditions of the race for which the horse is declared an acceptor.
(5) The barrier position allocated to the horse in a preferential draw for barrier positions, shall be determined from the total number of barrier positions from which the horse is entitled to start and the barrier position of a horse displaced by the horse and all horses outside the displaced horse shall increment by one barrier position.

(6) The nomination of a horse shall not be considered for inclusion in the handicaps and/or inclusion in the draw for barrier positions under the provisions of sub-reg. (1) after 10.00am on the day following the declaration of acceptances for the race or after the time for the declaration of acceptances for the race has been extended.

(7) Any person who, in the opinion of the Stewards, attempts to cause, or causes, a horse to be improperly omitted from the handicaps and/or draw for barrier positions commits an offence and may be penalised accordingly.

Reg.274. Applications for registration of studs and sires

(1) Application to register a place as a stud or register a stallion as a sire shall be made in the form approved by RWWA.

(2) A place will not be registered as a stud if the owner or studmaster is younger than 18 years.

(3) Unless the material is already on file with RWWA an applicant for registration of a place as a stud shall furnish with the application -

(a) certified extracts of the birth of the stud owner and studmaster;

(b) the police records of the stud owner and studmaster.

(4) RWWA at any time may request a stud owner or studmaster to furnish further copies of the material relating to the owner or studmaster, as the case may be, mentioned in sub-reg. (3).

(5) A certificate from a veterinary surgeon approved by RWWA -

(a) supporting the registration of a place as a stud; and/or

(b) supporting the registration of a stallion as a sire -

must be furnished with the initial application made under sub-reg. (1) and with each subsequent application.

(6) Sub-reg. (5) (a) does not apply to the registration of a place as a stud if the applicant holds a current licence from the WA Department of Agriculture in accordance with the provisions of the Artificial Breeding of Stock Act (1965) and Artificial Breeding (Horses) Regulations (1982).

(7) It is a condition of registration that a stud shall always be maintained in a fit and proper condition.

(8) Any change to any of the particulars entered on an application made under sub-reg. (1) shall immediately be notified to RWWA.

(9) Notification or certification of registration under rule 274 shall be prominently displayed on the registered premises.

Reg.275. Record of service form

Such record shall be lodged with the Controlling Body no later than 31 March each year.

Reg.277. Foaling notification

Notification shall be given within 21 days of foaling.
Reg.282. Application to licence artificial breeding station

Regulation 274 sub-reg. (2), (3), (4), (5), (7), (8) and (9) apply equally to an applicant to license a place as an artificial breeding station, to supporting certificates or documentation, to the holder of such a licence, and to the subject premises, as the case may be.