



RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

AMENDMENTS TO RWWA RULES OF THOROUGHBRED RACING

In accordance with Section 45 (1) (a) of the *Racing and Wagering Western Australia Act 2003*, notice is hereby given that the Board of Racing and Wagering WA has resolved that the RWWA Rules of Thoroughbred Racing be amended as detailed below.

AMENDMENT TO NATIONAL RULES (effective 1 January 2022)

Amend AR 99

AR 99 Obligation to ensure an identified horse is presented and races

- (1) *The trainer of a horse and/or the trainer's authorised representative must ensure, including by reference to the horse's Thoroughbred Identification Card, that if a horse is engaged to run in any race or official trial, the correct horse:*
 - (a) *is brought to the racecourse;*
 - (b) *is presented to start in the relevant race or official trial;*
 - (c) *starts in the relevant race or official trial.*
- (2) *Where a horse is brought to a racecourse, is presented to start in a race or official trial, and/or starts in a race or official trial, contrary to the provisions of subrule (1), a PRA or the Stewards must disqualify that horse from the relevant race or official trial.*

Rationale

Under AR 234, PRAs/Stewards may disqualify a horse entered or run in any race under a fraudulently false description or in connection with any other improper or dishonourable action or practice. This rule was designed to deal with matters which generally involve an element of misconduct.

However, there is no rule which expressly provides for disqualification where the wrong horse competes and misconduct is not present, such as the wrong horse running as a result of trainer error. Cases in Victoria and Queensland have highlighted that such offences would be better dealt with under a specific rule, rather than relying on AR 234.

Racing Australia has therefore introduced a specific rule – AR 99(2) – which gives PRAs/Stewards the express power to disqualify the wrong horse which competed in a race or official trial (for example, due to neglect or carelessness). Under the rule, there is no need to establish that the wrong horse competing was the result of fraudulent or improper practice or dishonourable action before disqualifying the horse.

AMENDMENT TO LOCAL RULES (effective 1 January 2022)

Add LR 120

LR 120 Except with the written permission of the Stewards, any Rider's Agent who:

(a) bets, has an interest in a bet, or facilitates a bet; or

(b) provides either directly or indirectly to any person for any direct or indirect financial or other benefit (regardless of whether such benefit materialises) any tip, or any other information or advice that may influence any person to bet,

on any WA race in which a rider whom the rider's agent represents (in accordance with AR1) is engaged to ride, commits an offence and may be penalised.

For the purposes of this rule, a bet includes a lay bet.

Rationale

There is an increasing number of Riders Agents involved in tipping and betting. This was a concern to Stewards as they saw it as a clear conflict of interest which has the potential to negatively effect the perception of their roles within racing. This rule has been introduced to mitigate those concerns.