



RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA
HARNESS RACING

OFFICIAL HARNESS POLICY FILE

TABLE OF CONTENT CATEGORIES:

1. DRIVERS / TRAINERS
2. VETERINARY / HORSE WELFARE
3. RACE DAY PROCEDURES
4. TRIALS / TRACKWORK



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Racing and Wagering Harness racing Policies

Introduction

(Last updated 20 June 2023)

This Harness file contains current policies and guidelines that are used in the control and regulation of Harness racing in Western Australia. The intention of this file is to accumulate existing policies into one centralised location.

It includes a continuation of current RWWA Harness policies as of July 2021 with any new or amended policies to be included and will be made available on the RWWA website at <https://www.rwwa.com.au/industry/integrity/rules-policies/>

1. DRIVERS/TRAINERS

DRIVING PENALTIES

1.1 GUIDELINES FOR IMPOSING PENALTIES FOR DRIVING INFRINGEMENTS

1. Due to the higher risk of potential consequences from interference or crossing that occurs on the first turn of any race, such incidents may attract a higher penalty as drivers are still finding their positions and the running room is generally more restricted when compared to other stages of a race.
2. As a rule of thumb, a “Guilty” plea may attract a 10% discount on penalty. A good driving record (not suspended within the last 6 months) should attract a 10% discount with a further 10% discount for a very good record (not suspended within the last 12-18 months) and a further 10% discount for an excellent record (not suspended within the last 2 years).
3. (NB: In relation to assessments of a ‘good record’ as defined above, this is a guide only that applies to those drivers that have had no less than 100 race drives in the 6-month period indicated. A driver with less than 100 drives would not automatically qualify as having a good record with the Stewards to exercise their discretion in relation to his level of driving and overall penalty record)
4. In practice an incident assessed by Stewards as worthy of a 21 day suspension, if committed by a driver with an excellent record who pleaded “Guilty” would incur a suspension of 13 days. An incident assessed by Stewards as worthy of perhaps 17 days (eg: Low degree of carelessness/Low degree of interference) committed by the same driver would incur a suspension of 9 or 10 days.

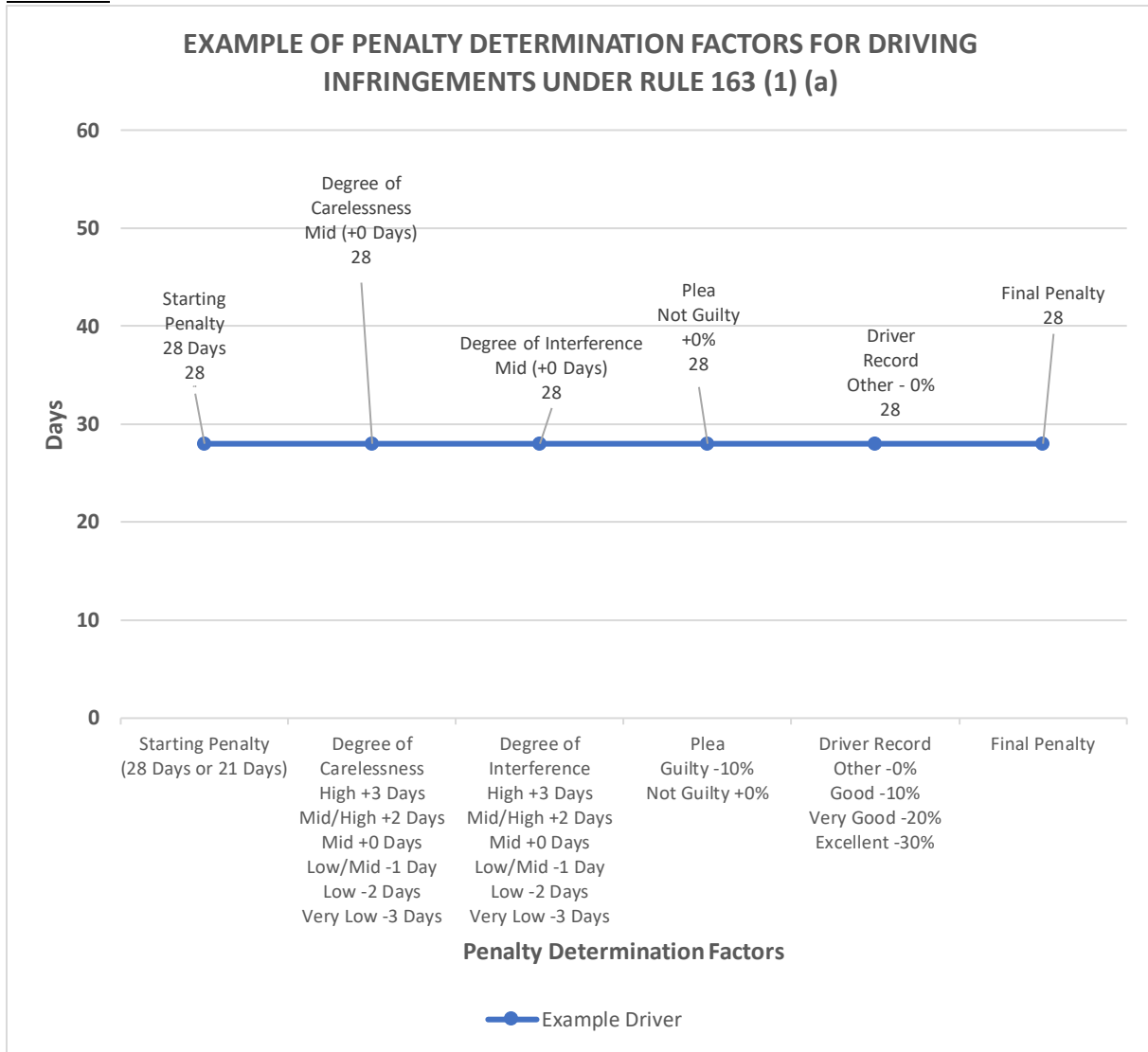
****In assessing penalty however Stewards will consider all penalties available under Rule 256 and be mindful of both the specifics of a particular offence and the effect of the penalty on the offending driver.***

**** In assessing penalties for driving infringements issued under Rule 163, Stewards are mindful of a number of factors***

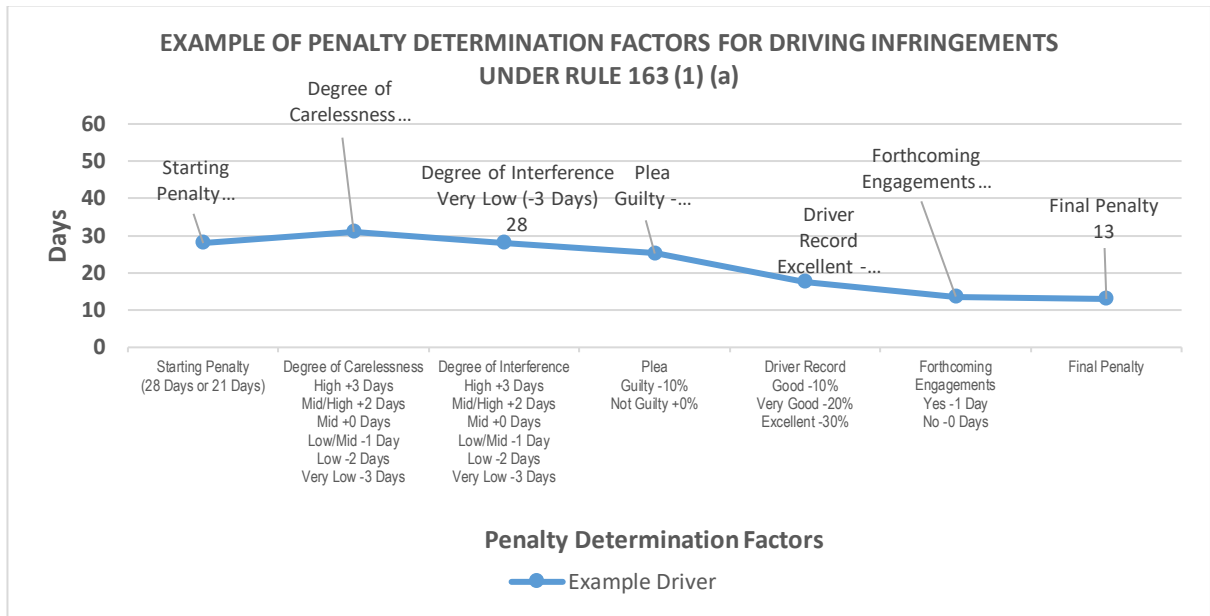
1. The circumstances of the incident should be addressed: What was the degree of carelessness shown by the driver throughout the incident. This will be assessed on a scale of Low, Mid, High including combinations (eg: Mid/High).
2. What was the degree of Interference received by other runners, which will also be assessed on the scale of Low, Mid, High including combinations (eg:Low/Mid).
3. Other factors to be taken into account include the consequences of the interference, the driver’s record, their personal circumstances and forthcoming engagements.¹

¹ 1.1 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

GRAPH 1



GRAPH 2



1.2 GUIDELINES FOR ASSESSING LR164 INCIDENTS

LR164(1) provides protection for a horse maintaining its position or making a forward move on the outside of runners until entering the front straight with a lap to go. From that point until entering the back straight on the final occasion a horse cannot be obliged to race wider than three wide.

Under LR164(2) a driver must comply with all Rules other than R163(1)(b).

It is expected however, that all drivers make forward moves with safety to ensure that their own drive and all other horses in the field obtain the best possible finishing position.

It is therefore imperative that any driver intending to change position and ease another horse and driver wider is fully aware of the positioning of their own drive relative to the horse and driver being eased wider. The driver initiating the move must always exercise due care and afford sufficient time to the other driver and horse to react to the move by only moving outwards when in a position to do so and in a gradual and reasonable manner without moving suddenly or abruptly. To achieve this requirement, the driver initiating the move must exercise the utmost care and have a clear advantage prior to commencing it. Head-to-head movement is discouraged as any undue pressure or jostling may result in action being taken.

For the Ease Out Policy to work effectively, the driver of the horse being eased out must also exercise due care and not resist the move when not in a position to realistically do so.

In circumstances where the driver initiating the move does so according to this policy, the driver being eased wider is expected to react by moving wider as endeavouring to resist such movement when not in a position to realistically hold the position is likely to result in action being taken against them under the rules in the event of an incident and interference resulting to either horse.

Stewards when assessing the circumstances of an incident will consider the degree of care exercised by each driver.

Basically, interference will occur for one, or more, of three reasons:

- The driver attempting to shift ground does so suddenly or abruptly, or his horse over-reacts when being taken outwards, leaving the driver of the horse he is attempting to shift insufficient time to react to the move,
- The driver of the horse being eased fails to react to the move or attempts to resist the move when not in a position to realistically do so,
- The horse being eased out does not respond to its driver's efforts.

Any assessments by the Stewards in relation to interference will be determined on the merits of each particular case, having regard to the Australian Harness Racing Rules, the degree of care being exercised by each driver, all of the above factors and any other relevant considerations that may apply. It is entirely reasonable for a driver easing outwards with a clear advantage to expect the move to be completed without incident. If an incident occurs in those circumstances it is highly probable that either the actions of the horse or driver being eased wider were significant factors.²

1.4 PRIORITIES REGARDING HORSES TO BE DRIVEN

Rule 152 provides that a driver (who is also an owner or trainer) shall not drive any other horse in a race except with the permission of the stewards.

If a driver owns or trains more than one horse in a race (and wants to drive in that race), they must observe the following order of priority:

1. The person shall drive the horse the person owns and trains
2. The person shall drive the horse which the person owns but which is trained by someone else
3. The person shall drive the horse trained but not owned by the person.³

1.5 DRIVERS USE OF MOBILE PHONE OR OTHER FORMS OF ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS ON A RACE COURSE

The racing industry is vulnerable from those who would seek to gain an unfair advantage by attempting to receive privileged information from drivers at race meetings or by those attempting to affect a race's outcome. Matters such as this can damage the public perception of the sport which the industry heavily relies upon.

Accordingly, in accordance with Local Rule 172 the use of a mobile phone or other electronic devices capable of receiving or transmitting such information by all drivers is prohibited between the period from when arriving on course until the completion of all driving engagements.

A driver who is seen using any, or similar device to those stated above shall be deemed to be in contravention of this rule and the Stewards may take possession of and retain in their possession (including for the purposes of examining) such device.

Local Rule 172 states;

LR172 Offences in relation to mobile phone possession or use on course

- (1) *Unless permission has been granted by the Stewards for emergency, family, or other exceptional reasons only, a driver must not use any mobile telephone, tablet, radio transmitter, radio transceiver or any other*

² 1.2 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

³ 1.4 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

appliance, apparatus, instrument or equipment capable of receiving or transmitting information from the time of arriving on course until the completion of all driving engagements.

(2) *Without the permission of the Stewards, a person (including but not limited to a driver) must not:*

- (a) bring into the drivers' room;*
- (b) have in that person's possession in the drivers' room;*
- (c) use in the drivers' room,*

any mobile telephone, tablet, radio transmitter, radio transceiver or any other appliance, apparatus, instrument or equipment capable of receiving or transmitting information.

(3) *The Stewards may take possession of and retain in their possession (including for the purposes of examining) any appliance, apparatus, instrument or equipment that is used by any person in contravention of this rule.⁴*

1.7 CONCUSSION POLICY

This policy is to apply when a driver suffers concussion following a race or trackwork accident. Concussion occurs when, after a blow to the head, there is brain injury with some immediate, or delayed disturbance to cerebral function.

1. Where a driver is transferred to Hospital following a fall that renders them unconscious, that driver will automatically be stood down for a period of twelve (12) days. That driver must be cleared subject to the below provisions as directed by the Stewards and such Doctor must issue a certificate of clearance.
2. Where a driver is involved in a fall that involves their head striking the ground or any other object that renders them dazed or unconscious, in the opinion of the Steward(s), after consultation with the on-course medical officers, then they will be stood down from driving until they are examined by a medical officer and passed clear to resume driving. If that diagnosis determines that a concussion may have occurred the driver will be stood down for 12 days and be required to gain a clearance as described in section 3.

In cases where there is any doubt regarding a possible concussion the Steward in charge is directed to stand the driver down until such time as they receive a clearance from a Medical practitioner.

3. A driver who after being diagnosed with concussion after being referred to a hospital must obtain clearance to resume driving in accordance with the following provisions;
 1. Application to resume driving to be made after a period of twelve (12) days following the incident.
 2. Following discharge from hospital the driver is to be reviewed by a Specialist Neurosurgeon, Neurologist or Medical doctor as approved by RWWA stewards (in most cases this will be a RWWA retained Doctor) and be passed asymptomatic and cleared to drive, which shall be

⁴ 1.5 Policy added July 2021 after LR 172 approval by IAC

detailed by the issuing of such certificate by the consulting specialist.

4. Any driver that is subject to the provisions of sections 1,2 or 3 within 2 months of the first application may be required to receive a clearance from a Specialist Neurosurgeon or Neurologist before being permitted to resume driving.⁵

1.13 ALCOHOL AND DRUG OFFENCES (BANNED SUBSTANCE) - COUNSELLING REQUIREMENTS

Following review it was decided by the IAC that all offenders under the banned substance rules must satisfy the following policy before being permitted to drive again. This policy was formulated after consultation with relevant health professionals. As this policy states, it is relevant to every person who breaches the drug rules. Repeat offenders are required to submit to more stringent criteria as set out in sections 4 to 5.

RWWA ALCOHOL AND DRUG POLICY

All persons breaching the banned/prohibited substance rules of the Rules of Racing shall following inquiry, as either a term and condition of any stay of suspension imposed by the Stewards, or in the event of disqualification, as a term and condition of any application to be relicensed, be required to comply with the following policy prior to resuming riding. It shall be the responsibility of the Steward-In-Charge of the particular inquiry to ensure the following conditions are met.

1. All offenders (whether jockeys, track work riders or drivers) must attend a compulsory drug counselling session with an approved health professional whereat a letter of introduction from the Stewards is to be presented outlining the known circumstances of the offence and RWWA's policy as expressed herein.
2. The offender shall consent to and provide a written report from the relevant health professional as to their attendance and any recommendations arising of such counselling session must be forwarded to RWWA Stewards. Any recommendations arising from the health professional must be met in full by the offender prior to recommencing active duty. Further a certificate of clearance from the relevant health professional must be presented to the Stewards before the effected person can resume riding.
3. All offenders must provide a confirmed clear sample prior to recommencing active duty. In the event that a sample submitted for such purpose is found to contain a prohibited substance, the offender will be considered to be a repeat offender for the purposes of this policy and will be required to fulfil the requirements of points 4 and 5 below.
4. Repeat offenders are required to undergo additional, professional psychological assessment to determine a rehabilitation programme and fully comply with the programme to the satisfaction of the relevant health professional. A Certificate of Clearance following completion of any rehabilitation programme must be presented to the Stewards in addition to a clear sample prior to resuming riding.
5. Repeat offenders are then required to comply with stated rehabilitation programme on an on-going basis and submit themselves to monthly tests until directed otherwise by the Stewards but for a period of no less than 6-months. A failure to deliver such test shall have the effect of immediately placing on-hold their licensed participation in the industry.

⁵ 1.7 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

1.14 SECTIONAL TIMES POLICY

Policy rescinded as of 3 December 2021 (IAC). ⁶

1.15 GROUP RACING AND DEFERMENT PENALTY POLICY

Effective from 1 June 2016 the following policy and procedure shall apply to application of penalties for driving infringements (whip offences, interference, crossing, jostling, unacceptable drives etc) issued by Stewards.

1. Stewards shall apply a higher level of base tariff for any suspensions or fines imposed in relation to infringements of the rules in relation to driving offences arising from all Group 1 & 2 races. Accordingly such penalties shall be higher and not less than an additional 10-days to the starting tariff. (Eg. If the normal starting point for the penalty would be 21 days, the Stewards will apply a starting point of at least 31 days subject to any mitigations that then apply which will be calculated on the normal tariff that applies) (Discretion may be used for Group 2 races that are subject to reduced prize money levels).

In assessing any fines, where the offending Driver has subsequently proceeded to win or be placed, the Stewards will be entitled to take into account the Driver percentages that are to apply in determining the quantum of fine.

2. In instances where the offence is deemed in the opinion of the Stewards to be egregious, excessive, flagrant, resulted in a fall (or Driver dislodged) or where the offending Driver has subsequently proceeded to win or be placed in such event, the penalty shall also attract an additional premium above that of the higher base tariff. This shall also apply where as a result of the matter concerning the offence the Driver has either directly or indirectly benefited from the event with respect to the final finishing position of the horse.
3. Any suspensions incurred in Group 1 & 2 races shall not be deferred for a period greater than 5-days. Such limited concession is provided in the interests of connections to avoid difficulties in finding replacement drivers at short notice for race meeting in the immediate days ahead where other drivers are already engaged. Accordingly it would be expected that Driver's will fulfil their engagements (i.e within 5 days) unless there are some rare and exceptional reasons why this is not appropriate.
4. A Driver who does not have a good record at the time when any penalty is being issued arising from any race, will not be granted a deferment of the commencement of such penalty where such deferment would include a Group or other feature event.

Drivers with good records may be granted such deferment at the discretion of the Stewards, however deferments will not be granted in any circumstance where in the opinion of the Stewards the offence was egregious, excessive, flagrant (or Driver dislodged) or where as a result a fall occurred.


(For Example; If a Driver is not deemed to have a good record as per the Harness Stewards Penalty Guidelines Document and incurs a suspension on Tuesday in some regular race, then such penalty will not be deferred to include the Friday, if the same Driver is due to drive in a Group or feature event on that day).

⁶ 1.14 Policy rescinded as of December 2021

5. A Good record shall be one where the Driver has not been suspended within the last 6-months for any driving related offence provided that he has driven in no less than 100 race starts in that period. ⁷

2. VETERINARY / HORSE WELFARE

2.1 RACING IN HOT WEATHER

<h2 style="margin: 0;">Hot Weather Policy</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Thoroughbred and Harness Racing</h3>	 <p style="font-size: small; margin: 0;">RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA</p>
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Department	Integrity
Responsible RWWA Manager	Chief Steward Thoroughbred/Harness
Date of Approval	1 November, 2020
Effective Date	1 November, 2020
Review	This policy will be reviewed bi-annually, or earlier as need arises.

Purpose	<p>To outline when the RWWA Thoroughbred/Harness Stewards will declare that a venue is 'hot weather affected'.</p> <p>The primary objective of this policy is to protect the safety and welfare of racing industry participants and racing horses.</p> <p>This policy details how Racing and Wagering Western Australia will manage the safety and welfare of racing participants and racehorses during periods of hot weather experienced at race meetings and official trials.</p> <p>Controls outlined aim at reducing the heat related risks present during hot weather and provide guidance on race meeting scheduling and/ or abandonment in specific circumstances.</p>
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Scope	All participants, RWWA and racing club officials must comply with the requirements in this policy.
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⁷ 1.15 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

<p>Key Risks of Racing in Hot Weather</p>	<p>While heat stress is occasionally seen in racehorses in hot weather conditions, most fit racehorses cope well with hot weather. Thoroughbred and Harness races are conducted over relatively short distances, so maximal exertion in the heat only occurs for a short period. The amount of heat generated, and body water lost is relatively low compared to many other horse sports.</p> <p>Many factors must be considered when deciding upon the safety of racing in hot weather conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ambient temperature Humidity Air movement Individual horse factors Transport distances Racecourse facilities and micro-climate Duration of the race Time of year and opportunity for horses to adapt to hot weather conditions <p>The safety of personnel and horses are most likely to be compromised when both the ambient temperature and relative humidity are high, and wind speeds are low or absent.</p> <p>A day with high ambient temperatures, low humidity and a breeze is generally not a particularly high-risk day but a warm day with very high humidity and no breeze may well be high risk day.</p> <p>Horses cool themselves efficiently by evaporative cooling, but high ambient temperature and high humidity will slow the rate of transfer of heat from the horse's body to the environment.</p> <p>It should be noted that equine heat stress can occasionally be seen during the cooler months, especially in spring when the days can be quite warm, but horses might still be carrying a winter coat, are trained in the cooler hours of the morning, and may not have adapted to the warmer daytime temperatures.</p>
<p>Heat Affected Horses</p>	<p>RWWA applies the following scale to assist Official Race Day Vets (ORV) in reporting the signs of heat affected horses in a consistent manner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slower than Normal Recovery Applied to horses that show mild distress / exhaustion and a degree of tachycardia (raised heart rate) and tachypnoea (raised respiratory rate) inconsistent with the recovery period. This may or may not be associated with heat stress. May require active cooling measures to aid recovery. • Heat Stress Applied to horses that show moderate distress, hyperthermia, tachycardia, tachypnoea, lashing out with the hind limbs and fatigue. Affected horses may require cold hosing and other cooling aids, including medications, but usually respond quickly to appropriate first aid treatment.

- **Heat Stroke**

Applied to horses that show severe distress with the above signs plus neurologic dysfunction such as manic behaviour, lashing out with the hind limbs, a dull, 'vacant' look to the eyes, ataxia which may progress to collapse, seizures or rarely death.

Policy	
<p>Policy Principles</p>	<p>The welfare of the horse always comes before travelling, racing and trialling endeavours. Adherence to the requirements in this policy will assist in minimising the potential for heat stress in horses transported, raced or trialled on 'hot weather affected' days.</p> <p>For the purpose of this policy the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • venue is the location where a race meeting or official trial is scheduled to be held. • scheduled day is the day that the race meeting is scheduled to be held. • forecast maximum temperature is the highest temperature forecast by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) for the venue at any time within the duration of the scheduled race meeting. • duration of the scheduled race meeting is the time which altogether covers the period from 1 hour prior to the advertised start time of the first race, until 30 minutes after the last race.
<p>Pre-race day risk assessment</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Steward in Charge of any upcoming race meeting has primary responsibility to manage the risks of hot weather conditions by monitoring the regional weather forecasts using the most detailed BOM data. 2. Detailed forecast data can be found at http://www.bom.gov.au/places/wa/ 3. The location of the race meeting and "Detailed 3 hourly forecast" should be used for accurate weather forecast information. 4. The forecast weather should be monitored from at least 7 days prior to the scheduled day. 5. Management options that will be applied by RWWA where the forecast maximum temperature is 38°C or higher include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Modifying the start time of the race meeting to avoid peak hot weather conditions; or b. Change the venue of the meeting; or c. Re-schedule the meeting to another day; or d. Abandoning the scheduled race meeting where no alternative mitigating actions can be taken.

	<p>6. At or around 9am on the day prior to a race day on which the temperature is forecast to be 38°C or higher, the Steward in Charge will convene a discussion with relevant personnel to assess the risks associated with proceeding with the race meeting at the particular racecourse.</p>
<p>Declaring a 'hot weather affected' day</p>	<p>7. RWWA Stewards will declare a venue to be 'hot weather affected' if the forecast maximum temperature is 35°C or higher for the venue at any time within the duration of the scheduled race meeting.</p>
<p>RWWA options on 'hot weather affected' days:</p> <p>35-37.9°C</p>	<p>8. Where the forecast maximum temperature for the venue at any time within the duration of the scheduled race meeting is between 35-37.9°C, RWWA may:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. continue with the meeting consistent with requirements set out in this policy, ensuring all safety recommendations for racing in hot weather, as detailed within this policy, are observed.
<p>RWWA options on 'hot weather affected' days:</p> <p>38°C or higher</p>	<p>9. Where the forecast maximum temperature for any venue at any time within the duration of the scheduled race meeting is forecast to be 38°C or higher RWWA will apply one or more of the following options;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Modifying the start time of the race meeting to avoid peak hot weather conditions; or b. Change the venue of the meeting; or c. Re-schedule the meeting to another day; or d. Abandoning the scheduled race meeting where no alternative mitigating actions can be taken.
<p>Steward requirements and decisions prior to the race meeting</p>	<p>10. In the week prior to the Hot Weather affected race meeting the Steward in Charge will contact the Race Club to discuss requirements for the day.</p> <p>11. The Steward in Charge will send an email to the Club Manager and Track Manager to outline Club requirements for racing on 'hot weather affected' days and provide a copy of the "Racing in Hot Weather Check List" (Appendix A).</p> <p>12. Where a trainer has a horse engaged at a race meeting where the forecast maximum temperature at the venue, or at the location of the trainers' registered stables, on the day of the scheduled race meeting, is 35°C or higher, a trainer may, before the prescribed race day scratching deadline, seek permission from the Stewards to withdraw the horse from its engagement. A scratching penalty will apply where the horse is withdrawn more than 24 hours before the commencement of the meeting (Harness). The rider's fee may be waived at the discretion of the Racing department (Thoroughbred). (01/04/22)</p>

<p>Steward requirements and decisions during the race meeting</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Notify participants that race day hot weather protocols are to be in place for the race meeting either prior to the first race, or at the point during the race meeting those protocols are implemented. This may include announcements relating to parading directions to keep participants informed. 14. The minimum period prior to the races that horses are required to be on-course may be reduced. 15. The time that horses are required to parade or to be held in the mounting yard both pre-and post-race or behind the starting barriers should be minimized. 16. Depending on the conditions and set up of the mounting yard, horses may enter just before they are ready to go out onto the track so that they can be kept in the shade for as long as possible pre-race and leave the mounting yard as soon as the jockey dismounts and unsaddles post-race. Alternatively Stewards permission can be provided for horses to proceed to the barriers directly from, and after the race return to, the first mounting yard only. 17. Advise Riders or Drivers, should they become concerned with the condition of their horse at any time, they should proceed directly to the ORV in the mounting yard or at the barriers. 18. Regularly liaise with the ORV during the race meeting to discuss ambient weather conditions and the post-race recovery of horses. 19. The ORV will closely monitor all horses and at any time the ORV can make recommendations to the Stewards that the meeting be abandoned, if in their opinion the welfare of the horses competing is likely to be adversely affected by changing or unexpected extreme conditions, or where the ORV reports two or more cases of heat stroke in horses present at the meeting. 20. Where the actual temperature after the commencement of a hot weather affected race meeting falls below 35°C, the Steward in Charge may at their discretion, relax or dispense with any of the additional race meeting requirements for hot weather affected days set out in this policy. 21. Stewards may not permit Harness horses to engage in a pre-race warm up on hot weather affected days.
<p>Race Club Requirements</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. In the week prior to a Hot Weather affected race meeting the Stewards will contact the Club Manager or Track Manager to outline the requirements for 'hot weather affected' race meetings, including providing a copy of the "Racing in Hot Weather Check List" (Appendix A) 23. The "Racing in Hot weather check list" (Appendix A) must be completed and returned to the Steward in Charge prior to the race day. 24. Horse stalls should be designed and maintained to be as cool as possible and may include the use of roof sprinklers and/or stall misting systems. 25. All horse stall sprinklers or misting systems must be functional and serviced at least annually before the month of October. 26. An adequate number of wash bays and hoses should be available to enable rapid post-race cooling of horses. 27. Adequate cool drinking water should be available. 28. Large containers of ice water in mobile containers and smaller buckets and scrapers should be available at appropriate locations including the mounting yard, hosing bays and sample collection areas. The Club should have a designated staff member replenishing the ice water supply during the race meeting.

	<p>29. Hoses with adequate water pressure should be available in the mounting yard and be of sufficient length to reach all points of the mounting yard.</p> <p>30. The sample collection areas should be kept as cool as possible, for example by the operation of sprinkler systems or hosing the roof, ensuring adequate ventilation and by providing fans or air-conditioning.</p> <p>31. All Club air conditioning systems in sample collection areas must be functional and serviced at least annually before the month of October.</p>
<p>Communications</p>	<p>32. Decisions to abandon or relocate a race meeting, observing the guidelines within this policy, should be made as early as possible, and where possible prior to the day of the race meeting.</p> <p>33. Where there is a possibility that a race meeting may be at risk of abandonment or relocation due to extreme weather, this information should be communicated in advance to relevant RWWA departments including a time frame when a final decision will be made.</p> <p>34. Following is a guide to relevant communications:</p> <p>a) In the event of extreme heat conditions being forecast at a venue for a race meeting; discussion between Stewards, Racing office and Race Club will occur in the days prior to the scheduled race meeting.</p> <p>b) Notification of any race rescheduling must be communicated by the Stewards to the Executive; Racing department; Wagering Ops; Public Relations team and TABradio. The Racing department are to notify industry directly and the Public Relations team are to communicate externally via the RWWA Media Platforms.</p> <p>c) In the event that a race meeting is at risk of being abandoned and a decision to relocate the meeting hasn't been arrived at; then communication regarding a final decision being made should be shared with the following– Chief Steward; Racing department; Wagering department; Public Relations team; Executive; Industry participants and affected Race Club, advising them when a final decision is to be made. The Racing department are responsible for notifying industry participants directly.</p>
<p>Participant requirements on all 'hot weather affected' days</p>	<p>35. In preparation for racing on hot weather affected days horses should be well hydrated leading up to the race meeting.</p> <p>36. Where possible horses should be stabled out of the sun and in areas where there is good movement of air.</p> <p>37. Wash bays and hoses will be available to enable rapid post-race cooling of horses. Hoses should be run to remove any hot water that has accumulated within the hose before putting water on the horse.</p> <p>38. Ice water bins will be available for the rapid cooling of heat affected horses and should be utilised accordingly.</p> <p>39. Adequate cool drinking water will be available, and horses should be given free access to drinking water upon return to the stall area post-race.</p> <p>40. Horse handlers should monitor horses under their care closely on hot, humid days – particularly in the period following the race. Any concerns should be brought to the attention of the on-course veterinarian.</p> <p>41. Trainers are reminded where they have any concerns a horse may not be coping with the hot weather; they should approach the Stewards to request permission to withdraw the horse. The Stewards may seek the opinion of the on-course veterinarian before considering such an application.</p>

Official Raceday Veterinarians (ORV)	<p>42. The ORV should monitor all horses on course for signs of being heat affected throughout the day – particularly paying attention to horse’s recovery post racing.</p> <p>43. Any heat affected horse seen prior to racing will be immediately reported to the Stewards, and a decision will be made, in consultation with the ORV, on the suitability of that horse to race.</p> <p>44. Any horse found to be heat affected will be given appropriate treatment and cooling.</p> <p>45. The Veterinary Surgeon should have an adequate supply of appropriate medications to treat a heat affected horse.</p> <p>46. All cases of heat affected horses will be reported to the Stewards including an assessment of the severity of each case as per the definitions in this policy.</p> <p>47. Further information on treating heat affected horses can be found in the ORV manual.</p> <p>48. The ORV and Sample collection staff will monitor the sampling procedures to ensure that horses are cooling appropriately and adjust the process as required with any heat affected horses.</p>
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APPENDIX A – RWWA RACING IN HOT WEATHER CHECK LIST

Date	
Race Club	
Club Personnel completing check list	
Signature	
Steward conducting pre-race inspection	
Signature	

Equine Welfare Requirements

- Adequate wash bays and hoses must be available to enable rapid post-race cooling of horses
- Adequate drinking water must be available for horses.
- Hoses with adequate water pressure must be available in the mounting yard and be of sufficient length to reach all points of the mounting yard.
- Large containers of ice water in mobile containers must be available at appropriate locations including the mounting yard, hosing bays and sample collection areas. Empty buckets should also be in these locations to allow water to be put on horses.
- Sweat scrapers should be available at the mounting yard to assist in stripping water that has been heated by contact with the horse from its skin to assist in cooling the body.
- The sample collection stalls should be kept as cool as possible for example the operation of sprinkler systems or hosing the roof, ensuring adequate ventilation and by providing operational fans/air-conditioning where fitted.
- Where possible horses should be in tie up stalls out of the sun and in areas where there is good movement of air. Tie up stalls should be kept as cool as possible. Consideration should be given to using sprinkler or misting systems.

Racing Participants Welfare Requirements

- Cold drinking water including appropriate drinking receptacles must be made available to all participants or employees at the following locations - starting barriers and horse stalls.
- Cold drinking water including appropriate drinking receptacles must be made available in the vicinity of the horse stalls area to licensed and registered persons who are required to work at the race meeting
- Cold drinking water, sports drinks and ice must be provided in the riders or drivers rooms
- Sunscreen to be made available in either the secretary’s office or the scales area
- Ensure air conditioners or fans are operational in the riders or driver’s rooms⁸

⁸ 2.1 IAC meeting 22 March 2022 effective 1 April 2022

2.3 CARDIAC ARRHYTHMIAS

Where a horse is detected with a pathological cardiac arrhythmia (including atrial fibrillation) on auscultation after a race or official trial the horse must undergo diagnostic procedures to determine the cause of the arrhythmia and provide a veterinary clearance declaring the horse suitable to return to racing. The protocols below must be followed according to the number of occasions the horse has been detected with a cardiac arrhythmia.

1. Cardiac arrhythmia (pathological) found for the first time

Where a horse is found to have experienced a pathological cardiac arrhythmia for the first time

- a) The horse must be stood down from racing or trialing for a period of 14 days.
- b) The horse must be examined by a qualified veterinary surgeon and a veterinary clearance report submitted to the RWWA Stewards which includes the results of an electrocardiography (ECG) performed at rest which records the horse to have normal sinus rhythm.
- c) The horse must then complete a satisfactory trial in the presence of a Steward.
- d) The horse must be examined immediately post-trial by an official veterinarian and declared free of cardiac arrhythmia.

2. Cardiac arrhythmia (pathological) found for a second time

Where a horse is found to have experienced a pathological cardiac arrhythmia for a second time

- a) The horse must be stood down from racing or trialing for a period of 28 days.
- b) The horse must not start in a race or official trial until the Stewards have received a satisfactory report from a qualified veterinary surgeon with specialist qualifications in equine medicine which should include the results of:
 - i. echocardiography (heart ultrasound) performed by that veterinarian at rest;
 - ii. electrocardiography (ECG) performed by that veterinarian at rest and at exercise which demonstrates the horse has normal sinus rhythm.
 - iii. any other examination deemed necessary by the specialist veterinarian to determine the likely significance of the cardiac arrhythmia.

Following acceptance by the RWWA Stewards of the veterinary specialist report, the following applies

- (a) The horse must complete a satisfactory trial on two occasions in the presence of a Steward.
- (b) The horse must be examined immediately post-trial by an official veterinarian and declared free of cardiac arrhythmia.

3. Cardiac arrhythmia (pathological) found for a third time

Where a horse is found to have experienced a pathological cardiac arrhythmia (including atrial fibrillation) for a third time, the horse will be ineligible to start in any race, official trial or jump out or be trained, unless otherwise determined by the Stewards in writing.⁹

⁹ 2.3 Updated policy 1 June 2023

2.4 HORSE BLEEDING FROM ONE NOSTRIL ONLY

Any horse found to have bled from one nostril only after track work, trialling or racing, must complete a trial to the satisfaction of the Stewards before being permitted to race again, unless the Stewards are satisfied that the presence of blood in the one nostril was attributable to external trauma (see 2.5).¹¹

2.5 HORSES BLEEDING FROM BOTH NOSTRILS AFTER EXTERNAL TRAUMA - REQUESTS FOR ENDOSCOPIC CONFIRMATION

Where in the opinion of Stewards, or on advice from the official race day Veterinarian, direct evidence of external trauma exists (i.e. Direct evidence of a horse hitting its head), the Stewards may permit the trainer to have the horse undergo an endoscopic examination off course by a registered Veterinarian within 3 hours of the attack of bleeding. Should it be determined from this examination that the blood did not originate from the lungs and upon receipt of a written Veterinary report to this effect, the horse may not be subject to the provisions of HR 101.

It is recommended that any horse suffering a head trauma resulting in nasal bleeding should not start in a race or trial for a period of at least one week¹²

2.6 TREATMENT OF HORSES AT RACECOURSES AND PUBLIC TRAINING FACILITIES

Horses are not permitted to be treated with medications or physical therapies at any time whilst located at a racecourse or public training facility for the purpose of racing, trialling or track working.

There are racing integrity, public perception, workplace health and safety and public liability risks arising from the practice of horses being administered medications whilst at racecourses and public training facilities. The workplace health, safety and public liability risks particularly associated with inappropriate handling and disposal of syringes and needles is significant.

This policy applies to:-

- i) **Medication:** The practice of administering any medication or product to a horse is prohibited including, but not limited to, by the routes detailed below;
 - a) injection
 - b) stomach tube
 - c) orally
 - d) inhalation (e.g. nebuliser or metered dose inhaler)
 - e) topical application of products containing prohibited substances
 - f) the application of Vicks Vaporub® or equivalent aromatic product to any part of the body

The only exception being where such medication is administered by a registered Veterinarian, for the purpose of emergency treatment, or for diagnostic purposes with the prior permission of Stewards.

¹⁰ 2.3 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

¹¹ 2.4 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

¹² 2.5 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- ii. Physical treatments: that are not permitted to be used at any time before racing on the day of a race or whilst a horse is at a public training facility include;
- a) shockwave treatment
 - b) acupuncture
 - c) laser and infra-red treatments
 - d) chiropractic manipulations
 - e) magnetic field therapy
 - f) transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) and any other form of electrical stimulation
- iii. Ice treatments: Whilst located at a racecourse or public training facility prior to racing, trialling or track working, it is not permissible to stand a horse in buckets of ice or iced water, nor is it permissible to use a bag, ice boots or bandages filled with ice so that any part of the lower leg is numbed.
The use of ice packs, bandages soaked in ice filled buckets etc., after a race, trial or trackwork is permitted as a good form of therapy after exercise. ¹³

2.7 CONTROL OF RACE DAY TREATMENT / MEDICATION OF RACEHORSES

With a number of Rules now restricting medication and treatments of various kinds before competition, the following are guidelines regarding medications/treatments that may be approved by the Stewards on veterinary advice when a request is made to the Stewards for permission to treat a horse on race day.

Guidelines for treatments/medications that can be permitted on race day prior to the race – prior approval of the Stewards not required

Topical application of hoof oils/dressings/grooming products

The application of routine, non-medicated hoof oils/dressings is permitted on the day of racing. The exception is those products that contain medications or herbs that claim therapeutic effects such as analgesia or anti-inflammatory actions.

The application of commercial baby oil or petroleum jelly preparations to lubricate/prevent chaffing of a body area, or a grooming product, is permitted to be applied pre-race. Any product so used must be kept in its original container that has applied to it the original product label, must not be altered or modified by the addition of any other substance/s, and must be available for inspection by the Stewards and official veterinarian. The Stewards may take possession of any such preparation for testing for prohibited substances.

Shampoos and fly sprays

Shampoos, including those that are antiseptic or contain an anti-fungal agent, are permitted to be used on race day prior to racing. Fly sprays are permitted to be used on race day prior to racing.

Physical therapy as treatment

Vibratory massage systems may be used in the stable on the morning of the day of the race but are not permitted on the racecourse.

The application of ice/cold water to musculoskeletal structures

¹³ 2.6 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

The application of ice or chilled water to, or the use of whirlpool boots or systems such as “Game Ready” on musculoskeletal structures are permitted in the trainer’s stables on the morning of race day but are not permitted to be used pre-race in the race day stalls on-course.

Treatments/medications permitted on race day before the race – prior approval of the Stewards required

Other topical preparations

While creams, ointments and powders for topical use are considered to be medications, circumstances may arise when a horse suffers a minor wound that does not affect its suitability to race but would benefit from the application of a topical antibiotic or antiseptic treatment. Such a preparation must be a registered veterinary preparation or human therapeutic good which contains **only** an antibiotic or antiseptic as its active ingredient, and which is clearly stated as such on its product label. Any product so used must be kept in its original container that has applied to it the original product label, must not be altered or modified by the addition of any other substance/s, and must be available for inspection by the Stewards and official veterinarian. The Stewards may take possession of any such preparation for testing for prohibited substances.

Trainers must apply to the Stewards for permission to administer a topical antiseptic/antibiotic preparation before a race, on race day. Horses having received such permission for the application of a topical medication must be inspected by an official veterinarian on arrival at the racecourse.

Treatments/medications prohibited on race day prior to the race;

Routes of administration

Unless excepted in the guidelines above, any substance administered by injection, by stomach tube, by paste, by dose syringe, by topical application or by inhalation will be considered to be a treatment and must not be administered on race day prior to the race. Furthermore, there are other pre-competition restrictions on certain treatments/procedures that are imposed within the Harness rules that trainers must be aware of.

Clay poultices

Clay poultices may be applied to the legs no later than the day before racing but must be removed the morning of the race and must not be re-applied on race day before the race. All traces of clay poultices must be removed prior to arrival on-course.

Glycerine and Vicks Vaporub®

The application of Glycerine and/or Vicks Vaporub® by any means is not permitted prior to racing on race day.

Physical therapy as treatment

The following physical treatments **are not permitted** to be used at any time before racing on the day of a race:

- acupuncture
- laser and infra-red treatments
- chiropractic manipulations
- magnetic field therapy
- transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) and any other form of electrical stimulation

- equine salt therapy

Extra-corporeal shock wave treatment (ESWT)

Shock wave treatment of racehorses is prohibited for seven clear days prior to racing and must be included in treatment records.¹⁴

2.9 ELECTRICAL ANTI CRIBBING COLLAR

This collar is an anti-‘cribbing’ (‘wind sucking’) device for horses.

Horses receive an electric shock to the throat area when attempting to ‘crib’ or ‘wind-suck’.

Under several Australian states Animal Welfare Acts the use of this collar is considered an offence.

Under the Rules of Racing the device can be considered to be an implement capable of inflicting cruelty to an animal.

Trainers are advised that RWWA does not support the use of this device.

Stewards have been requested to retain these collars if they are found on licensed premises during stable inspections.¹⁵

2.10 DYNAMIC RESPIRATORY SCOPE

Abnormal function of the upper respiratory tract can be a significant performance limiting factor in a racehorse. To obtain an accurate diagnosis of the condition it is frequently essential to view the functioning upper respiratory tract during exercise. The Dynamic Respiratory Scope is designed to be fitted to an exercising horse and enables examinations to be carried out under natural training conditions.

The Dynamic Respiratory Scope has recently been approved for use in WA during training as a diagnostic aid for both Standardbred and Thoroughbred horses.

The conditions set down by RWWA for the use of the Dynamic Respiratory Scope on a racecourse or training ground are as follows:

1. At all times a Veterinary Surgeon experienced in the use of the Dynamic Respiratory Scope must be present when such device is fitted and used on a horse
2. The prior permission of the Stewards and the course manager must be obtained including notification of the name of the horse, name of the rider/driver, name of the trainer and name of the attending veterinarian
3. By arrangement with the course manager and under the control of the trackwork supervisor, the use of a scope on a horse may only take place at such time and on such track and under such conditions as designated by the track manager and must be at a time when no other horses are present on that particular circuit

¹⁴ 2.7 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

¹⁵ 2.9 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

4. The rider/driver participating in the test must be experienced and must be approved by the Stewards and the track supervisor
5. A copy of the veterinary report following the use of the Dynamic Respiratory Scope on a racehorse must be made available to the RWWA Racing Industry Veterinarian on request.¹⁶

2.14 MANDATORY REPORTING OF VETERINARY ISSUES

HR89. Reporting things affecting horses' performance.

(1) After the running of any race and for a period of 7 days thereafter if the owner, trainer, driver, stablehand or any person in charge of a horse is aware of or has knowledge of anything which may have affected the horse's performance in that race, he or she shall report it immediately to the stewards.

(2) A person who fails to comply with sub rule (1) is guilty of an offence.

The following are examples of, but not limited to, conditions or occurrences requiring notification to Stewards under the provisions of this rule;

- Any surgery aimed at correcting a condition that may have adversely impacted a horse's prior performances i.e. upper respiratory tract surgery or surgery to correct lameness, limb inflammation/pain or gait dysfunction.
- A horse is required to have a long period of rest to heal a pre-existing injury i.e. tendon/ligament strain.
- Lameness or musculoskeletal inflammation/pain.
- Injury to any part of the body which could potentially adversely impact on the horse's performance or consist of a welfare or public perception issue on race day, or have resulted in an interrupted preparation.
- Any condition or occurrence that has resulted in a horse missing consecutive days of normal exercise or sufficiently interrupted, and thus adversely impacted, a horse's preparation for its next race.
- Any systemic illness that has adversely impacted on a horse's health or wellbeing or may have resulted in an interrupted preparation i.e. colic attack, any illness causing loss of appetite.¹⁷

2.15 RWWA AGED HORSE POLICY

Applying to Thoroughbred racehorses 12 years old and over and Standardbred racehorses 13 years old and over, in both races and trials.

1. As required by AR 78 and Harness Policy 2.13, a Thoroughbred horse that is aged 12 years or a Standardbred horse that is aged 13 years is not permitted to race unless, 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.

¹⁶ 2.10 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

¹⁷ 2.14 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

2. Each horse to which this policy applies that is accepted will be formally flagged to Stewards at acceptance time.
3. An Aged Horse Report (attached) 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 horse's performance and soundness. Where ongoing general health, 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, Stewards permission to continue to compete that horse will be withdrawn and the horse will be retired.

Thoroughbred horses reaching 13 years of age

In accordance with AR 78 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.



RACING AND WAGERING WESTERN AUSTRALIA

RWWA STEWARDS - AGED HORSE REPORT

This report is to be completed for all Thoroughbred horses over 12 years and all Standardbred horses over 13 years.

Date: _____ Race Meeting Location: _____

Name of Horse: _____ Age of Horse: _____

Branded: _____ Off Side: _____ Near Side: _____

Microchip: _____

Trainer: _____

(a) Pre Race Veterinary Examination:

Attitude – demeanour:
General body condition:

H.R.
R.R.

Gait/Soundness:

Additional Comments:

Veterinary Surgeon: _____

(b) Performance:

Distance of Race: _____ Class of Race: _____

Placing: _____ Number of Starters: _____

Beaten Margin: _____

Comments:

(c) Post Race Veterinary Examination:

General appearance/recovery:

H.R.
R.R.

Gait/Soundness:

Additional Comments:

Veterinary Surgeon: _____

Office Use

Signed by Steward in Charge of Meeting: _____

Sighted/filed by Chief Steward: _____ Date: _____¹⁸

2.16 RWWA STEWARDS POLICY – THE USE OF JOGGERS

Introduction

A jogger is defined as a specialised trailer either towed behind or attached to the rear of a motorised vehicle which is used for the purpose of exercising horses. Joggers may be used to exercise both Standardbred and Thoroughbred horses under the directions of this policy.

¹⁸ 2.15 Reviewed 1 June 2023

Horses must not be tied directly to any enclosed motorised vehicle or led by hand directly from an enclosed motorised vehicle, at any time.

Inappropriate or unsafe use of joggers can potentially result in both animal welfare and human occupational health and safety issues and as such any risks should be mitigated by a policy to guide the safe use of joggers.

In respect of exercising horses the inappropriate or unsafe use of joggers may potentially lead to breaches of both the Animal Welfare Act 2002 and the Rules of Racing. Under section 19(3) (c) of the Animal Welfare Act, a person in charge of an animal is cruel to an animal if the animal is *“worked, driven, ridden or otherwise used when it is not fit to be so used or has been over used; or if the animal is used in a manner that causes, or is likely to cause, it unnecessary harm.”*

In addition the training of racehorses necessitates that a horse be regularly ridden or driven during exercise, in order to accustom the horse to saddle, bridle, cart, driver and/or rider, to ensure that when the horse is entered to trial or race it can be safely ridden or driven in any trial or race. Failure to ensure that any horse is regularly accustomed to being ridden or drive presents an occupational health and safety concern for riders and/or drivers on race day. Thus the use of jogger's for exercising horses is intended to be confined to slow speed exercise only as they are not intended to be a substitute for the riding or driving of horses during higher speed exercise as part of any race preparation.

Objective

This policy aims to provide guidelines and recommendations regarding the safe and acceptable use of joggers for the training of both Standardbred and Thoroughbred horses in Western Australia.

Policy

Horses must not be tied to, led off or contained within a moving jogger for the purpose of exercise, or any other reason where the horse's feet are in contact with the ground, unless all of the following conditions are met;

1. Equipment and its maintenance

- 1.1. Ensure vehicle, jogger and all accessories/attachments are in safe working order before every use. All vehicles must be in roadworthy condition.
- 1.2. Any padding must be proper and sufficient to protect from injury.
- 1.3. Vehicle brakes and steering should be checked and maintained regularly, along with checking tyres and tyre pressure on both the vehicle and jogger.
- 1.4. Hitch attachments should be checked regularly and maintained in good order. An additional chain or other connection must be used to ensure if the jogger becomes loose at the ball hitch it remains connected to the vehicle.
- 1.5. Vehicle engine and exhaust systems should be maintained regularly to minimise potentially harmful emissions being inhaled by horses.
- 1.6. Clips and lead ropes used to secure horses to a jogger must be in safe working order, as should any collars or breakaway/pull back devices used.

- 1.7. There must only be the appropriate number of horses (or less) attached for the design of the particular jogger. Overcrowding must be avoided at all times.
2. Introducing inexperienced horses to joggers
 - 2.1. No horse under 18 months of age shall be led or exercised using a jogger or motorised vehicle.
 - 2.2. Care should be taken when introducing inexperienced horses to the jogger and any safety equipment such as pull back collars and breakaway devices if deemed necessary.
 - 2.3. Consideration should be given to the positioning of each individual horse on the jogger, giving particular thought to the age, capability, experience and personality of each horse.
 - 2.4. As a minimum, each horse should be trained to lead and tie up securely prior to being placed on a jogger.
 3. Securing horses to or within joggers
 - 3.1. If horses are to be tied then they must be adequately halter trained and do not pull against pressure from the lead securing the horse to the jogger.
 - 3.2. The horse must wear a halter with wide straps such as a leather or webbing halter (not a rope halter).
 - 3.3. The horse must not be tied up with reins or a lead attached to a bit in the horse's mouth.
 - 3.4. The lead must not be tied around the horse's body and attached to the jogger.
 - 3.5. The jogger must be specifically set up or modified for tying and exercising horses in a safe manner.
 - 3.6. If more than one horse is tied, or contained within a jogger, then the horses must be tied or contained in such a way that they cannot interfere with one another - particular care should be taken to ensure their legs / feet cannot come into contact with other horses.
 - 3.7. The horse must be tied high enough and short enough to prevent stepping over or on to the lead.
 - 3.8. The horse must be tied in such a way that it can be untied quickly should it be necessary, even if there is pressure on the rope (eg. tied with a panic snap or breakaway device).
 4. Supervision
 - 4.1. The horse(s) must be constantly monitored and the vehicle stop immediately if the horse stumbles, falls or comes loose.
 - 4.2. A jogger must be operated with at least one person in the vehicle and another person to act as a spotter/supervisor in the event of an incident. Any spotter/supervisor should be at least 16 years old.
 - 4.3. The spotter/supervisor should be either located on the ground with full, unimpeded vision of the jogger over the entire circuit, or in a passenger seat of the vehicle.

4.4. If the spotter/supervisor is not in the vehicle, it is preferred that they have audio contact with the driver via either phone or two-way radio – but at least visual contact to signal in emergency situations as a minimum.

4.5. The spotter/supervisor should be observing the training, and taking particular note of the performance and actions of horses attached to the joggers, at all times.

5. Speed

5.1. Joggers are considered suitable to be used for the slow pace exercising of horses only. The vehicle must not move faster than a horse can comfortably trot, canter or move in a slow pacing action whilst a horse is tied to or contained within the jogger.

5.2. Horses must not gallop or complete fast pace exercise when tied to or contained within a jogger.

5.3. Drivers must carefully monitor the speed of the vehicle at all times, ensuring the speed is suitable for the least capable horse in the group to safely exercise without undue exertion or risk of injury/incident.

5.4. Any person driving a vehicle towing a jogger trailer must be at least 16 years old and be a licensed participant with RWWA. Any person driving the vehicle must not be under the influence of alcohol or any other substance that may impair their ability to drive.

6. Distractions

Loud music and telephone conversations can potentially distract the driver of the vehicle - leading to unsafe situations – and both should be avoided as much as practicable, so the driver's full attention is focused on operating the vehicle and supervising the horses through the use of the vehicle's mirrors at all times.

7. Surface

The training surface on which the horse is moving must be suitable for the exercise of horses, free of any obstacles or defects that could cause injury, be level, not slippery and must not contain holes of a size that would likely cause a horse to stumble. The surface must not create dust to a degree where it may adversely affect the horse's respiration.¹⁹

2.17 STANDARD BRED HORSES THAT ARE BLIND IN ONE EYE

Rule 102 (2) allows the chairman of stewards to grant permission for a horse which is blind in one eye to race subject to such conditions as the chairman sees fit.

In Western Australia horses which are blind in one eye will be permitted to race subject to the following conditions:

- 1 That the trainer applies in writing for permission to race; and provides certification from a veterinarian that the horse is blind in one eye AND has good vision in the other eye.
- 2 That the horse satisfactorily completes three trials.

¹⁹ 2.16 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- 3 Acknowledgement that the Stewards can withdraw permission to race in the event that the blindness is adversely affecting the horse or its performance.²⁰

2.18 NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

1) The connections of a horse which contracts or suffers from any contagious disease or condition specified in part (3) below shall not later than 24 hours of the horse being diagnosed as suffering from the disease or condition notify the Controlling Body in writing of that fact.

2) For the purpose of this policy the term “connections” shall include every person bound by the RWWA Rules of Harness Racing in whose care or control the horse is when it is diagnosed as suffering from a contagious disease or condition specified part (1).

3) The following diseases affecting horses must be notified in accordance with part (1) above;

African horse sickness

Borna disease

Contagious equine metritis

Dourine

Epizootic lymphangitis

Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western)

Equine encephalomyelitis (Venezuelan)

Equine encephalosis

Equine herpes-virus 1 (abortigenic and neurological strains)

Equine infectious anaemia

Equine influenza

Equine piroplasmiasis (Babesiosis)

Equine viral arteritis

Getah virus

Glanders

Hendra virus

Japanese encephalitis

Potomac fever

Screw-worm fly - New World (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*)

Screw-worm fly - Old World (*Chrysomya bezziana*)

Strangles

Surra (*Trypanosoma evansi*)

Trichinellosis

Warble fly myiasis

West Nile virus infection²¹

2.19 LIMITING FREQUENT STARTS IN STANDARD BREDS

Controlling bodies are responsible for upholding a higher level of supervision, welfare/veterinary checks and regulation in respect of horses that race frequently.

²⁰ 2.17 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

²¹ 2.18 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

A Standardbred horse will only be permitted to start in a maximum of 6 races and/or official trials in any 28 day period.²²

2.20 HORSES RETURNING FROM LENGTHY SPELL OR EXTENDED INJURY LAYOFF

1. Veterinary clearance before trialling

The trainer of a horse that has not raced for 12 months or longer must submit a veterinary clearance from a registered veterinary surgeon indicating that the horse is suitable to resume trialling and racing. Details of any injury or medical condition which might have caused the prolonged break from training or racing must be provided with the veterinary clearance. Following receipt of a satisfactory veterinary clearance permission may be granted for the horse to be nominated for and participate in an official trial.

2. Satisfactory trial

If permission to trial is granted by the Stewards, the horse must:

- (a) participate in an official trial to the satisfaction of the Stewards; and
- (b) pass a post-trial veterinary examination by the official on-course trial veterinarian to ensure that the horse is suitable to continue its training regime.

3. Permission to race

Following a satisfactory trial and upon passing the on-course post-trial veterinary examination, the Stewards may grant permission for the horse to be nominated for and participate in a race.²³

2.21 RACE VETERINARY EXAMINATION POLICY

In certain circumstances the Stewards may direct that the on course Veterinary Surgeon examine a horse on race day prior to that horse competing, in order to establish the horse's fitness and suitability to start.

In the following circumstances, but not limited to, the Stewards will direct that the on course Veterinary Surgeon examine a horse, to establish its fitness and suitability to race, prior to it being permitted to start in any race;

1. Any Standardbred race horse that is 13 years of age or older (see Aged Horse Policy – *note that 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).
2. Any Standardbred horse that has also raced on the previous day.

The Veterinary Surgeon, at the direction of Stewards, will examine such horse upon arrival on course, and complete the pre-race examination section of the veterinary report indicating the horse's general state of health, fitness and soundness.

²² 2.19 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

²³ 2.20 Updated policy as of 1 June 2023

In the event that the Veterinary Surgeon is of the opinion that the horse examined is unsound, not fit or capable of performing competitively or in poor body condition, they will report this to the Steward in charge of the meeting immediately, who will determine the appropriate action which may include the withdrawal of the horse from its engagement.

The Veterinary Surgeon will examine such horse post race, and complete the post-race examination section of the veterinary report indicating the horse's general state of health, fitness and soundness.

The Steward in charge of the meeting will then complete the section recording the performance of the horse.

The Veterinary Report will be filed with the Chief Steward and this record will form part of a continual assessment of the relevant horse's 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, the horse may be made subject to further veterinary examination, a period of suspension or retirement where appropriate.

Dated: June 2019

RWWA Harness Stewards – Veterinary Report

Date: _____ Race Meeting Location: _____

Name of Horse: _____ Age of Horse: _____

Brand: _____ Trainer: _____

(a) Pre Race Veterinary Examination:

Attitude – demeanour:

General body condition:

H.R.

R.R.

Gait/Soundness:

Additional Comments:

Veterinary Surgeon: _____

(b) Performance:

Distance of Race: _____ Class of Race: _____

Placing: _____ Number of Starters: _____

Beaten Margin: _____

Comments:

(c) Post Race Veterinary Examination:

General appearance/recovery:

H.R.

R.R.

Gait/Soundness:

Additional Comments:

Veterinary Surgeon: _____

Office Use

Signed by Steward in Charge of Meeting: _____

Sighted/filed by Chief Steward: _____ Date:

_____ ²⁴

²⁴ 2.21 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

2.22 EQUINE MAJOR FRACTURES OR OTHER MAJOR ORTHOPAEDIC INJURIES

(Thoroughbred and Harness)

Under the provisions of AR 105 and HR 89, where a trainer becomes aware of any condition or injury that may have affected a horse's performance in a race the trainer must report that condition or injury to the Stewards as soon as practicable. This includes where a horse has surgery to address any injury or condition, for example but not limited to arthroscopy and respiratory surgery.

In addition to the above requirements, trainers must adhere to the following policy regarding the return to training and racing of a horse which has sustained a major fracture or other major orthopaedic injury, regardless of whether surgery was conducted to repair the fracture/injury.

Major Fractures or Other Major Orthopaedic Injuries

These include fractures that are repaired with placement of surgical implants, but also includes those that are managed conservatively. Major fractures/orthopaedic injuries relevant to this policy include, but are not limited to:

- Front (metacarpal) and hind (metatarsal) cannon bone fractures
- Pastern bone fractures
- Carpal (knee) and tarsal (hock) slab fractures
- Midbody and basal fractures of the proximal sesamoid bones
- Long bone and pelvic stress fractures

The treating veterinary surgeon should provide appropriate advice to a trainer on whether an injury should be classified as a major fracture and whether major orthopaedic surgery has been performed.

Trainers' requirement to Report on Injury

1. A trainer must notify the Stewards within seven (7) days of a horse sustaining such an injury.
2. The trainer must submit to the Stewards a clinical report by the qualified veterinary surgeon who performed the surgical procedure or who managed the injury conservatively. The report must include details of the injury and the surgical procedure performed where relevant, post-injury management recommendations and prognosis for a return to racing.

Veterinary Clearance to Race Procedure

3. Following recovery from the injury, a trainer must provide a veterinary certificate of clearance from a qualified veterinary surgeon, prior to the horse returning to training. The veterinary examination must include at a minimum, plain radiographs of the relevant area to assess healing and prognosis for successful return to racing - and the written clearance must state that the horse is suitable to train and to perform fast work at this time.
4. Where a horse has been diagnosed with a stress fracture of a long bone or pelvis, and the trainer and qualified veterinary surgeon are satisfied that the horse is in a suitable condition to return to galloping less than 4 months after being diagnosed, the horse must undergo advanced imaging i.e., scintigraphy, of the affected area and the results reported to RWWA Stewards for consideration.
5. The trainer must lodge a further veterinary certificate of clearance with the Stewards prior to the horse being required to compete in an official trial. This veterinary clearance examination should be conducted within the seven (7) days prior to the nominated trial. The horse's performance and soundness will be assessed at the official trial by both the Stewards and the official trial day veterinarian.

Further Injury Information that may be Required of the Trainer

The RWWA Veterinary Department will review all clearance certificates received in relation to the injury. The Stewards may request any further tests or examinations the RWWA Veterinary Department requires after discussions with the certifying veterinarian, and before the horse resumes or continues in training, trialling or racing following the injury.

Ongoing Responsibilities of the Trainer

The trainer must monitor, together with the stable veterinarian, any lameness or musculoskeletal issues with the horse. The trainer shall direct the stable veterinarian to conduct whatever diagnostic procedures are necessary to determine significance of any such issues identified. This information is to be provided to the Stewards, together with a report by the stable veterinarian as to the suitability of the subject horse remaining in race training.²⁵

3. RACE DAY PROCEDURES

3.3 SCRATCHING PENALTIES

The following penalties shall apply in the event of a horse being scratched after the declaration of acceptances:

1. A 14-day racing ban will apply for a scratching made before 8.30am on the day of the race. The 14-day ban may be reduced to a 7-day ban if a certificate from a qualified veterinarian is received which states the reason for the scratching and that the horse is fit to resume racing.
2. A non-reducible 28-day ban will apply for a non-veterinary related scratching made after 8.30am on the day of the race.
3. A 28-day ban will apply for a veterinary related scratching made after 8.30am on the day of the race and may be reduced to 7-days if a certificate from a qualified veterinarian is received which states the reason for the scratching and that the horse is fit to resume racing.
4. A 7-day ban will apply for scratching's that are made on-course by the official veterinary surgeon.
5. A \$200 fine will be imposed on a trainer where a horse is scratched for, in the Stewards opinion, an unacceptable reason.

The Stewards have the discretion to rule that a ban not be imposed where a horse is scratched for reasons beyond the trainer's control (i.e. Vehicle breakdown en-route) or if warranted based on the circumstances of the scratching.²⁶

3.4 BARRIER POSITIONS – SCRATCHINGS

In accordance with the provisions of Rule 131, the following policy shall be adopted in relation to the positioning of horses where a horse is withdrawn from a race after the draw for barrier positions is completed.

²⁵ 2.22 Effective Date May 2022; reviewed 1 June 2023

²⁶ 3.3 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

Standing Starts

If a horse is withdrawn from a standing start race after the draw is completed, the remaining starters on the same handicap line shall take their positions as if the withdrawn horse had not been included in the draw for barrier positions. Where there are two lines on the same handicap mark and a horse is withdrawn, the lines will not change (except for the inclusion of any emergencies) and the remaining starters on the same line shall be moved down to fill the vacated position.

Mobile Starts

Notwithstanding that the draw for barrier positions may have been decided by preference, if a horse is withdrawn from a mobile start race after the draw for barrier positions is completed, the barrier lines will not change (except for the inclusion of any emergencies) and the remaining starters on the same row shall be moved down to fill the vacated barrier position.²⁷

3.5 NOTIFICATION AND CHANGE OF DRIVER/CHANGE OF GEAR

Nomination of Driver

At the time a horse is nominated for a race, the person nominating the horse must notify the name of the licensed driver who is expected to drive the horse.

Notification of Change of Driver after Acceptances are Declared

<i>Day of Meeting</i>	<i>Acceptance Time</i>	<i>Driver Change Deadline</i>
Monday	10.00am Thursday	10.00am Friday
Tuesday	10.00am Thursday	10.00am Friday
Wednesday	10.00am Monday	10.00am Tuesday
Thursday	10.00am Monday	10.00am Tuesday
Friday	10.00am Tuesday	10.00am Wednesday
Saturday	10.00am Tuesday	10.00am Wednesday
Sunday	10.00am Wednesday	10.00am Thursday

Notification of Change of Gear after Acceptances are Declared

<i>Day of Meeting</i>	<i>Acceptance Time</i>	<i>Gear Change Deadline</i>
Monday	10.00am Thursday	10.00am Friday
Tuesday	10.00am Thursday	10.00am Friday
Wednesday	10.00am Monday	10.00am Tuesday
Thursday	10.00am Monday	10.00am Tuesday
Friday	10.00am Tuesday	10.00am Wednesday
Saturday	10.00am Tuesday	10.00am Wednesday
Sunday	10.00am Wednesday	10.00am Thursday

Driver Changes - Stewards Approval

- 1) Any change to the nominated driver after the times mentioned above requires the prior approval of the Stewards.
- 2) Where approval is required for the change of a driver the Stewards may, in granting approval require a replacement driver to be of comparable ability, and impose a penalty.

²⁷ 3.4 Updated as of April 2022 (removal of line movements due to scratching's refer policy changes 2011)

- 3) If any approval is granted by the Stewards during a race meeting then the approval shall be publicly announced by the club concerned as soon as possible thereafter.

Gear Change – Stewards Approval

Any change to the registered gear of a horse may only be made with the approval of the Stewards.²⁸

3.6 TRAINERS AUTHORITY

In accordance with the provisions of Rules 190(6) & (7), a horse may be presented at a race meeting by another person on behalf of its trainer, providing -

1. The trainer is unable to attend the race meeting for good reason, and
2. Written authorization is given by the trainer to the person presenting the horse, and
3. The person authorized to present the horse holds a current grade A or B trainers license and or a grade A or B drivers license, and
4. The authorization is delivered to the Steward in Charge of the race meeting at least one hour prior to the start of the event in which the horse is declared an acceptor, and
5. The written authorization is in the form determined by the Controlling Body from time to time, and
6. There is no abrogation of the trainer's responsibilities.

The Stewards may withdraw a horse from its engagement in the event of the horse being presented at a race meeting on behalf of the trainer contrary to this policy.²⁹

3.7 TRACK ATTENDANTS

The following guidelines shall be observed in relation to the duties of track attendants.

- 1) Each Club shall appoint a minimum of two suitably qualified persons to officiate as track attendants.
- 2) The persons appointed by a Club to officiate as track attendants shall;
 - a) Report to the Starter at least thirty minutes prior to the scheduled start time for the first race, and
 - b) Thereafter be in attendance at the start marshalling area at least ten minutes before the scheduled start time of each race.
- 3) The duties of the track attendants shall include;
 - a) Assisting the Starter in starting a race by complying with any reasonable request or instruction made by the Starter.
 - b) Providing assistance to drivers making gear adjustments prior to the start of a race, at the start marshalling area.

²⁸ 3.5 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

²⁹ 3.6 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- 4) Immediately after the race has started the track attendants shall,
 - a) Ensure that the track is free of manure or other obstructions at the start marshalling area.
 - b) In the case of a standing start, collect all barrier strands.
 - c) Position themselves on the track infield at an appropriate vantage point for the remainder of the race, and be prepared to offer assistance in the event of an accident during the race.
 - d) In the event of an accident the track attendants shall report immediately to the site of the accident and provide assistance to the Starter if required.³⁰

3.8 CLERK OF COURSE/CATCHER

The following guidelines are to be observed by the Clerk of Course/Catcher.

- 1) A Clerk of Course/Catcher shall be familiar with any Rules, policies and procedures relevant to his or her duties. A Clerk of Course/Catcher shall be well presented and dressed in clean and appropriate attire, which includes an approved helmet, white/blue shirt, white/beige jodhpurs and black/brown knee high riding boots.
- 2) A Clerk of Course/Catcher must have the expertise and horse handling ability to capture a driverless horse in all circumstances, particularly whilst a race is in progress.
- 3) A horse used by a Clerk of Course/Catcher must be fit for the duties expected of it and sound, tractable and well presented.
- 4) The Clerk of Course/Catcher must report to Steward in Charge of the meeting at least one hour before the scheduled start time for the first race, and confirm the correct time and scratchings, etc.
- 5) No later than 15 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time for each race, ensure all the horses engaged in the race are marshalled into the horse stall parade area. (The Rules require all horses engaged in a race to be in the horse stall parade area no later than 12 minutes before the scheduled start time of the race).
- 6) The horses engaged in the race shall be marshalled in barrier number order and led onto track 10 minutes prior to scheduled start time for the race.
 - a) The horses shall be paraded in the front straight to a point approximately opposite the 2500 metre start point.
 - b) The Clerk of Course/Catcher shall position his/her horse and allow the horses engaged in the race to circle and proceed with their preliminary.
 - c) After the last horse has circled the Clerk of Course/Catcher, he/she shall proceed to the relevant start point marshalling area for the race.
- 7) In mobile start races, when the Starter has called the drivers to marshal their horses ready for the start, the Clerk of Course and Catcher shall position their horses at the designated points on the track to assist the Starter with the pre-score up marshalling of the horses.
 - a) When the Starter calls the horses forward to commence the score up, the Clerk of Course and Catcher shall move to the outside of the track and remain prepared to assist a driver if needed or respond to instruction from the Starter.

³⁰ 3.7 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- 8) In standing start races the Clerk of Course and Catcher shall position themselves behind the horses drawn on the back mark and be prepared to respond to instruction from the Starter.
- 9) Once the start is effected the Clerk of Course/Catcher shall move to the designated position for the particular track and remain prepared to respond appropriately in the event of an accident during the race, and
 - a) If any unauthorized person should enter onto the track or an obstruction should remain on the track, take the necessary steps to ensure the track is cleared.
- 10) If in the event of an accident during the race, which results in a driverless horse, the Clerk of Course/Catcher shall proceed to regain control of the driverless horse at the first opportunity.
 - a) Any attempt to regain control of a driverless horse must be made in a manner, which ensures the least disruption to the remaining competitors, and must only be made where it is safe to do so without causing injury to the Clerk of Course/Catcher or another competitor in the race.
 - b) In the event of the Clerk of Course/Catcher regaining control of a driverless horse, where possible assistance will be provided by the Starter.
- 11) In the event of a horse falling and remaining on the track the Clerk of Course/Catcher shall proceed directly to the site of the fallen horse and provide assistance.
 - a) Where appropriate, warnings may be issued to the drivers remaining in the race that there is an obstruction on the track.
- 12) At the conclusion of each race, assemble the first five placed horses in preparation for the "all clear" parade. When the "all clear" Steward is positioned to receive "all clear" from the placed drivers, immediately parade the placed horses in finishing order past the "all clear" Steward's position.³¹

3.9 STARTER/STEWARD

The following guidelines are to be observed by the Starter/Steward.

- 1) The Starter/Steward shall be aware of the Rules, policies and procedures relating to starting.
- 2) The Starter/Steward shall report to the Steward in Charge of the meeting no later than one (1) hour before the start of the first race.
 - a) Obtain a copy of the race book and mark it with all the changes for the meeting.
 - b) Clearly mark the race book with scratchings, start lines and driver changes.
 - c) Obtain a copy of the horse identification and gear list.
- 3) Ensure that the following officials are available to officiate and that they understand the requirements of their respective duties - Mobile barrier driver, barrier attendants and Clerk of Course/Catcher.
 - a) Ensure that the mobile barrier vehicle and starting gate mechanism is operational.

³¹ 3.8 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- b) Ensure that the standing start barrier mechanisms and barrier strands are operational and in good condition.
 - c) Report immediately any unresolved problem to the Steward in Charge.
- 4) During the course of the meeting ensure that all licensed persons who are associated with a horse which is presented to race at the meeting, are appropriately attired in clean presentable clothing.
- 5) Ensure that all the runners engaged for a race are in the horse stall parade area no later than twelve minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the race.
- a) Ensure that each driver is properly attired and wearing the correct colours and is carrying a regulation whip.
 - b) Ensure that each horse is geared correctly.
 - c) Ensure each driver and horse is presented properly with all gear and equipment in clean and proper condition.
 - d) Ensure the horses, correctly identified by brand and description, are taken from the parade area in barrier number order, in time to parade on the track ten minutes before the scheduled start time of the race.
 - e) As the horses are taken from the parade area advise drivers of any changes to the starting positions for the race.
- 6) Take up a vantage point on the track, which enables observation of all runners during the preliminary.
- a) For a standing start race this should be at the start point.
 - b) For a mobile start race this should be in close proximity to the mobile barrier vehicle, which shall be parked on the track at the designated position for the venue.
- 7) After the race is started the Starter/Steward shall remain in the mobile barrier vehicle which shall continue to follow the field at a safe distance.
- a) In the event of an accident during the race, which results in horses or drivers remaining prone on the track, the Starter/Steward shall;
 - i) Instruct the mobile barrier driver stop the vehicle at the accident site.
 - ii) Provide any necessary assistance to a horse or driver.
 - iii) Supervise the attending barrier attendants.
 - iv) Make an immediate report to the Steward in Charge of the meeting, if it is necessary to stop the race.
 - v) Remain at the accident site and supervise any necessary action to resolve the aftermath of the accident.
- 8) Subsequent to each race report immediately to the Steward in Charge of the meeting any problems encountered with the start of the race and any waywardness attributable to a horse or any incident that may have affected the performance of any runner in the race.

- 9) At any time during the course of a meeting any malfunction of equipment must be reported to the Steward in Charge of the meeting and to the Secretary of the Club conducting the meeting. The Starter/Steward must ensure that the Club conducting the meeting takes immediate steps to rectify the malfunction.³²

3.10 MINIMUM MOBILE STANDARDS

For The Stewards to approve a mobile barrier for use in accordance with Rule 143 (1), in general, the mobile barrier shall conform to the following minimum standards:

- (a) be capable of drawing away from a field travelling at a speed of at least 50 kilometres per hour;
- (b) shall have approved numbered discs across the extended arms to denote the barrier position of the horses drawn on the front line;
- (c) be kept in a roadworthy condition;
- (d) provide within the extremities of the extended arms at least 1.5metres for each horse to be started from the front row;
- (e) provide a clearance of at least 1.5 metres between the ends of the extended arms and the inside line of marker pegs and outside railing; and

meet such other conditions as the Controlling Body may prescribe from time to time.³³

3.11 MOBILE BARRIER START FORMAT

The following guidelines shall be observed in starting mobile barrier races.

- 1) The Starter shall sound the whistle five minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the race. This signal indicates to drivers that they should immediately proceed to the start point for final gear adjustments.
- 2) After sounding the first whistle the Starter shall immediately instruct the mobile barrier driver to move the mobile barrier vehicle to a position adjacent to the relevant start position for the race.
- 3) The Starter shall sound the whistle two minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the race. This signal indicates to drivers that they must immediately proceed to the designated start point and marshal for the start of the score up procedure.
- 4) The Starter shall determine that the track is clear to proceed with the start procedure.
 - a) He shall instruct the mobile barrier driver to position the mobile barrier vehicle in readiness for the start procedure to commence.
 - b) Extend the arms of the mobile barrier
 - c) Instruct the Clerk of Course/Catcher to take up their respective positions.
- 5) The Starter shall then instruct the drivers to commence to circle their horses in a clockwise direction in descending barrier number order.
 - a) The front line horses shall be in one circle.
 - b) The back line horses, if any, in a second circle immediately behind the front line circle.
 - c) Both circles are confined by the positions of the Clerk of Course/Catcher.

³² 3.9 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

³³ 3.10 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- 6) With approximately one (1) minute to the scheduled start time of the race the Chief Steward will instruct the Starter to commence his starting procedure. The Starter shall activate the orange light and order the driver of the horse drawn on the outside of the front line to commence to move his horse towards the mobile barrier.
 - a) Each other driver shall commence to move his horse toward the mobile barrier, following the first called horse in descending barrier number order, and in a staggered formation.
 - b) The drivers of the horses drawn on the back line shall commence to move their horse forward as the horse drawn in barrier one (1) is moved into the score up. The second line drivers will position their respective horses behind the horses drawn in front of them.

- 7) When the horses come within approximately two lengths of the mobile barrier, the Starter shall de-activate the orange light and, in the case of an automatic start, activate the start” button. The computer or Driver shall then commence to gradually accelerate the speed of the mobile barrier vehicle until it reaches the start point.
 - a) The driver of each horse shall take up their respective barrier position and maintain the forward momentum of their horse at a speed consistent with the mobile barrier vehicle.
 - b) All drivers shall have their horses on the mobile barrier gate (“on the gate” means at a distance of approximately one metre) at the 75 metre mark (*Candy Pole*) and shall maintain the forward momentum of their horse at a speed consistent with the acceleration of the vehicle.
 - c) At the start point the Starter shall call, “Go” and in the case of an automatic start, the computer will activate the green light and retract the arms, and in the case of a manual start, the Starter will activate the blue light and re-tract the arms of the barrier.
 - d) The race is started at the time the Starter calls, “Go”.
 - e) As the Starter calls, “Go” the mobile barrier Driver shall further accelerate the vehicle so it draws away safely from the field.

- 8) During the start procedure the Starter shall;
 - a) Ensure that all horses are in their correct barrier positions.
 - b) Ensure that all horses drawn on the front line are on the gate at the 75 metre mark (*Candy Pole*), and that the back line horses are in their proper position.
 - c) Steadily increase speed of the vehicle to the start point.

- 9) In the event of a false start being declared;
 - a) The Starter shall immediately announce the fact to the drivers and activate the red light. All drivers shall restrain their horse but continue to maintain their horse in its position behind the mobile barrier vehicle.
 - b) The Starter will inform the drivers if the re-start procedure is to continue or be aborted.
 - i) The Starter shall immediately inform the Steward in Charge of the meeting of the reason for declaring a false start.
 - ii) If the re-start procedure is to continue, all drivers shall maintain their horse in position and at a speed consistent with the speed of the mobile barrier vehicle until the vehicle reaches the start marshalling area, at which point the start procedure shall re-commence in accordance with part (7) above.
 - iii) If the re-start procedure is aborted, all drivers shall further restrain their horse and the vehicle shall be accelerated away from the field. All drivers shall immediately take their horse to the start marshalling point and the start procedure shall re-commence.³⁴

3.12 STANDING START BARRIER FORMAT

The following guidelines shall be observed in starting standing start races.

³⁴ 3.11 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- 1) The Starter shall sound the whistle five minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the race.
 - a) This signal indicates to drivers that they should immediately proceed to the start point to make final gear adjustments.
- 2) The Starter shall sound the whistle two minutes prior to the scheduled start time of the race.
 - a) This signal indicates to drivers that they shall immediately proceed to the designated start point and marshal in readiness for the start procedure.
 - b) Each driver shall take his horse to a position immediately behind the handicap mark from which his horse is to start, and commence to circle in descending barrier number order in an anti- clockwise direction.
 - i) If there is only a front handicap mark for the event with two lines of starters, drivers shall circle in two lines.
 - ii) All the barrier strands shall be put in place when all the horses engaged in the race have assembled at the starting area in accordance with part (b) above.
 - iii) At Busselton and Collie where there are two lines off any mark there shall be no barrier strand placed on the handicap mark immediately behind that mark.
 - iv) Except in an emergency, no driver shall dismount from his sulky after the second whistle is sounded.
- 3) With one minute to the scheduled start time of the race, the Starter shall instruct drivers to move their horse towards its barrier position. All horses should be positioned 3 metres back from their barrier position and at a forty five degree angle facing the outside of the track.
 - a) The Starter shall then instruct all attendants to leave the track.
 - b) Immediately before the scheduled start time for the race the Starter shall instruct drivers to move their horse to the barrier by calling, *"To the barrier"*.
 - c) When the Starter is satisfied that a fair start may be effected he shall start the race by simultaneously releasing the barrier strands and calling, *"Stand them up"*.
 - d) To assist with the timely starting of races, from the time the instruction *"To the barrier"* is issued until the race is started the Starter will only delay the start if a horse, through waywardness, prevents another runner from obtaining a fair start.
- 4) In the event of the Starter declaring a false start in a standing start race he shall immediately sound the whistle repeatedly until all drivers commence to restrain their horse.
 - a) All drivers shall immediately return their horses to the start point marshalling area.
 - b) A red light and siren may also be activated to signify that a false start has been declared

When a false start is declared the Starter shall immediately notify the reason to the Steward in Charge.³⁵

3.13 HORSE STALL AND PRE-RACE PARADE AND TRACK ATTENDANTS

Horse Stall Parade & Pre-Race Parade

- 1) Trainers and drivers are directed to have their horse in the horse stall parade ring **at least 15 minutes prior to the advertised start time for the race.**

³⁵ 3.12 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- 2) The obligation is on the trainer and driver to be aware of the time, and ensure their horse is in the parade ring on time. A trainer or driver must not wait for instruction from the Clerk of Course/Catcher, before taking their horse to the parade ring.
- 3) It is the trainers' obligation to ensure that the horse is ready to be taken to the parade ring on time and the drivers' obligation to ensure that he/she is ready to take the drive on time.
- 4) In the event of a driver being delayed, the trainer of the horse shall ensure that the horse is taken to the parade ring to await the drivers arrival.
- 5) Immediately upon arriving in the parade ring, the horse shall be paraded in barrier number order.
- 6) Following instruction from the Clerk of Course/Catcher, the horses shall be taken onto the track for their pre-race parade and preliminary, approximately ten minutes prior to race time.

Horse must be on Track by Prescribed Time

It is an offence for a horse not to be on the track by the prescribed time (the prescribed time being 10 minutes prior to the start of the race).

Pre-Race Parade – Barrier Number Order

It is also an offence for a horse not to be paraded in barrier number order in the pre-race parade.

Driver Dismounting from the Sulky - Two Minute Whistle

Except with the permission of the Starter, no driver shall dismount from his/her sulky after the Starter has sounded the second whistle indicating two minutes to start time.

Attendants

No person, other than an authorised official, shall attend to a horse after it enters onto the track for its race, without the permission of the Starter or Stewards. Any such attendance shall only be made at the designated marshalling area for the particular race.³⁶

3.14 PRE-RACE WARM UP

A horse selected for a pre-race swab will not be permitted to complete a pre-race warm up.

- 1) The driver of a horse requiring a pre-race warm up must have his/her horse at its stall at least ten minutes prior to the start time of the race prior to the race in which their horse is engaged to compete. In the case of the first race on the program, the horse must be in the horse stall parade area 30 minutes before the advertised start time of the first race.
 - a) A driver of a horse waiting to do a pre-race warm up must not hamper the orderly parade of the horses waiting to enter onto the track for the race.

³⁶ 3.13 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- b) Once the horses engaged in the race have commenced to leave the parade ring a horse to be warmed up must be taken to the parade ring with the intention of immediately following the horses to race onto the track.
 - c) At all venues, the horses being given a pre-race warm up shall not participate in any pre-race on track parade, but shall be taken to the outside of the track and jogged in an anti-clockwise direction until such parade is finalised. Once any pre-race parade is completed, the horse may then be taken into its warm up routine.
- 2) Horses which are not ready to proceed to the horse stall parade ring at the time the horses the horses to race have commenced to leave the parade ring, shall, unless the Clerk of Course/Catcher decides otherwise, be precluded from doing a pre-race warm up.
 - 3) When the Starter sounds his whistle indicating five minutes to start time, all horses being given a pre-race warm up shall immediately be taken from the track via the designated entry/exit gate.
 - 4) The Stewards may penalise a trainer or driver who fails to comply with any of the requirements of this policy.
 - 5) Drivers shall not allow their horse to do a pre-race warm up on the pole.³⁷

3.15 PENALTY GUIDELINES FOR HORSES BREAKING GAIT

STANDING START RACES

(PACERS & TROTTERS)

1. If a horse begins badly (loses its handicap/interferes with other runners) it shall be issued a warning in relation to its barrier manners.
2. If a horse begins badly in its next 5 Standing Start races it will be placed outside the draw in Standing Start events.
3. If a horse becomes a repeat offender in Standing Start races it may be placed RODS (Right outside the draw in Standing Start events) or stood down pending a satisfactory Standing Start trial.

**** Notwithstanding the above guidelines, if Stewards deem the performance of any horse unsatisfactory more severe action may be taken.***

MOBILE EVENTS (SCORE UP & START)

(PACERS & TROTTERS)

1. A horse that races roughly or breaks for a short distance in the score-up but is able to regain its position prior to the candy pole (without interfering with other runners) shall be issued a warning in relation to its starting manners.
2. ** If a horse is out of its position at the start or races roughly after the start it may be placed out of the draw in mobile start events.

³⁷ 3.14 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

3. *** If a horse begins badly or breaks gait after the start it will be placed outside the draw in Mobile events for at least 2 satisfactory trials or race starts or a combination of the two.
4. If a horse begins badly in its next 5 starts after being included in the barrier draw it will be placed outside the draw for 4 race starts or trials.
5. If a horse becomes a repeat offender at the start it may be then placed RODM (Right outside the draw in Mobile events) or stood down for a satisfactory mobile trial.

**** Notwithstanding the above guidelines, if Stewards deem the performance of any horse unsatisfactory more severe action may be taken.***

***** If a horse is in excess of 1 metre from the barrier arm it is deemed to be out of position.***

****** A horse is deemed to have broken gait after the start if it breaks within 100m of the starting position.***

BREAKING GAIT DURING RACES

(PACERS)

1. If a horse races roughly or momentarily breaks gait without causing interference a warning may be placed against the racing record of that horse.
2. If a horse breaks gait during the race it will be stood down for a period of six (6) days and the completion of a satisfactory re-qualifying trial.
3. If this horse again breaks gait within its next 5 race starts it will be stood down until the completion of fourteen (14) days and two (2) satisfactory re-qualifying trials.
4. If a horse breaks gait in running again in its next 5 race starts, Stewards will exercise their discretion to determine the appropriate penalty.

**** Notwithstanding the above guidelines, if Stewards deem the performance of any horse unsatisfactory (gallops for a considerable distance, does not take a competitive part in the event or gallops on more than one occasion) more severe action may be taken.***

***** Once a horse has completed 5 clear starts it is assumed that the horse has a clear record.***

****** It is at the discretion of the stewards to determine if a runner momentarily breaks gait and what action is subsequently to be taken.***

BREAKING GAIT DURING RACES

(TROTTERS)

1. If a Trotter breaks gait in running it shall be issued a warning in relation to racing truly.
2. If a Trotter breaks gait in running on multiple occasions or again breaks gait in its next 3 starts it will be stood down for a period of six (6) days and the completion of one satisfactory requalifying trial.
3. If a Trotter again breaks gait in its next 3 starts it will be stood down for a period of fourteen (14) days and the completion of two (2) satisfactory requalifying trials.
4. If a Trotter again breaks gait in its next 3 starts stewards discretion will apply to determine the appropriate penalty.

*** Notwithstanding the above guidelines if Stewards deem the performance of any horse unsatisfactory (gallops for a considerable distance, does not complete the event or gallops on more than one occasion) more severe action may be taken.** ³⁸

3.16 PENALTY GUIDELINES FOR POOR PERFORMANCE (HORSES)

A horse that in the opinion of the Stewards performs poorly during a race may be stood for a period of six days and the completion of one satisfactory re-qualifying trial in compliance with Rule HR 63(2).³⁹

3.21 REMOVING A BAR - EXCLUDED FROM THE DRAW OR BARRED FROM RACING

The following procedure shall be observed where a trainer wishes to have a horse re-included into the barrier draw and or have a bar removed from a horse, which is barred from starting in the particular start format.

Mobile Barrier Races

To be re-included in the barrier draw for mobile start races a horse shall;

- a) Complete the required number of consecutive satisfactory race or trial starts from the mobile barrier. For a start to be considered satisfactory the horse must have displayed satisfactory behaviour before and during the score up and for 100 metres after the start. In addition the horse must have been within one metre of its allocated barrier position from the "Candy Pole" to the start point.
- b) When eligible for re-inclusion in the draw the trainer must make application to the RWWA Stewards for the ODM to be removed.

Standing Start Races

To be re-included in the barrier draw for standing start races a horse shall;

- a) Complete the required number of consecutive race or trial starts in standing start events from a barrier position which requires the horse to be facing the barrier strand. For a start to be considered satisfactory the horse must have displayed satisfactory behaviour before and during the start and for 100 metres after the start.
- b) If ordered by the Stewards, a number of the satisfactory starts shall be from the front line of the trial or race.
- c) When eligible for re-inclusion in the draw the trainer must make application to the RWWA Stewards for the ODS to be removed.

Barred From Racing (and/or excluded from barrier draw)

The following policy shall apply in relation to Racing Bars (Rule 101, 103 and 134).

- 1) From time to time the Stewards impose various racing bars on horses without conducting a formal inquiry. This procedure is necessitated by the limited time available between races for dealing with such matters.

Such decisions are made based on the Stewards observations of the race and in some cases after discussions with the driver of the horse concerned.

³⁸ 3.15 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

³⁹ 3.16 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

When a trainer receives a racing bar notification from the Stewards and disagrees with the Stewards decision, he may request the Stewards to review their decision. Any such request must be made as soon as possible after the trainer receives the racing bar notification.

- 2) A horse barred from racing until it completes a number of satisfactory trials shall not be trialled on the day the bar is imposed or trialled twice on the same day, for the purpose of having the bar removed. Only the horse's first trial on any day shall be recorded. For a trial to be considered satisfactory the horse must display satisfactory behaviour before and during the start and at all stages of the trial irrespective of the reason for the bar being imposed.
- 3) The Stewards may bar horses from racing for unsoundness, an unsatisfactory performance and unsatisfactory behaviour at the barrier or during a race.
 - a) At the time a bar is imposed, the trainer of the horse will be advised of the nature of the bar placed on the horse.
 - b) Except in the case of a bar for a specified period of time, which shall be removed after its expiry, the trainer of the barred horse must make application to the RWWA Stewards for the bar to be removed.
- 4) All horse barred to trials must complete the trial in a mile rate not slower than the qualifying time for its class.
- 5) Where a horse is barred to more than one satisfactory trial, the satisfactory trials must be completed consecutively before the bar will be removed.⁴⁰

3.22 BANDAGES

1. Non-adhesive full leg bandages must be stitched the full length on the outside of the leg in contrasting thread.
2. Self-adhesive bandages (e.g. Coflex, Vetrap) may be stitched, or electrical tape applied at least two times around the circumference of the bandage end. Unless the bandage is located under a secure boot.
3. Adhesive bandages (e.g. Elastoplast) must be stitched with contrasting thread unless the bandage is located under a secure boot.
4. Notification – The obligation to notify of any proposed change only relates to the addition or removal of bandages and not the type of bandages to be worn.⁴¹

3.24 HORSE LEAVING THE TRACK

The following procedure shall apply to a horse being taken from the track after it has entered onto the track for its pre-race preliminary -

1. A driver, who wishes to take his/her horse from the track, shall first obtain permission from the Stewards or the Starter.
2. The Stewards or Starter shall instruct the Clerk of Course or Catcher to accompany the horse from the track and remain with the horse until it is returned to the track.

⁴⁰ 3.21 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

⁴¹ 3.22 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

3. No gate attendant shall allow a horse to leave the track if the Clerk of Course or Catcher does not accompany it.

The gate attendant can identify a relevant horse from a horse being “warmed up”, by the fact that it shall have on a saddle cloth number.⁴²

3.25 INCLEMENT WEATHER PROCEDURE

The following procedure shall be observed in the event of inclement weather.

- 1) The Stewards shall determine when mudguards and splash sheets shall be fitted to sulkies.
 - a) The Starter/Steward, Clerk of Course/Catcher and horse stall Steward, shall inform trainers of any such determination.
 - b) After the Stewards have instructed that mudguards and splash sheets be fitted to sulkies, trainers will not use a sulky in a race which does not have approved mudguards and splash sheets fitted.
 - c) Trainers shall ensure that they have approved mudguards and splash sheets available for use when required.
- 2) For the purpose of competitor safety, the Stewards shall select three persons to act as advisers during the course of the meeting.
 - a) Two persons shall be experienced drivers and one shall be a senior representative of the Club conducting the meeting.
 - b) During the progress of the meeting, these persons shall monitor the condition of the track and liaise with the Stewards in relation to the safety of the track.
 - c) The Stewards shall decide when conditions militate against the continuance of safe racing.⁴³

3.26 DISTINGUISHING COLOURS

1. No two horses shall start in a race with the respective drivers in the same colours.
2. Where two or more horses the property of the same owner or trained by the same trainer start in the same race some distinguishing colour or mark approved by the Stewards shall be worn by the respective drivers.
 - a) The Stewards approve different colour helmets, armbands or the “Club” colours to be used to distinguish the respective horses described in part (2) above.⁴⁴

3.27 NO RACE/ACCIDENT PROCEDURE

The following procedure shall be followed when the Stewards decide to stop a race because of an accident.

⁴² 3.24 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

⁴³ 3.25 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

⁴⁴ 3.26 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- 1) If in the opinion of the Stewards it would be unsafe for a race to continue, they may stop the race and order it to be re-run or, depending on the circumstances, declare it a “No-Race”. The Steward-in-Charge of a meeting shall decide when a race is to be stopped.
- 2) In the event of the Stewards stopping a race;
 - a) The red “raced stopped” light and sirens shall be activated.
 - b) All drivers shall take immediate action to restrain their horse safely and the race shall discontinue.
- 3) In the event of a horse being driverless the “Clerk-of-Course/Catcher” shall immediately take action to capture the driverless horse. If the driverless horse can be captured without undue interference to other runners and/or without creating a safety hazard, the race may continue. If not, the race shall be stopped.
- 4) If a driver is dislodged and lays prone on the track, the race shall be stopped immediately, and the Steward-in-Charge of the meeting shall direct the ambulance to attend to the driver.
- 5) In the event of an accident, the Starter and veterinarian, who shall be travelling in the mobile barrier vehicle (Or “Starter’s car” if at a Standing Start venue) and nearby track attendants shall provide assistance at the accident site to remove any obstacle from the track so that the race may continue.
- 6) In the event of the track not being clear for the race to continue safely, the race shall be stopped.
- 7) If there is no Steward in attendance at an accident site, officials who are providing assistance at an accident site shall be under the direction of the Starter. The Steward or Starter at an accident site shall order any person who is not required, off the track.

In the event of a race being stopped, then re-run, Stewards should ensure that the track is “screened” to obviate a problem with marks on the track at the accident site.⁴⁵

3.28 LODGING A PROTEST BEFORE “ALL CLEAR”

Lodging a Protest

The Rules require the driver of a “placed” horse to parade his/her horse before the “All Clear” Steward for the purpose of inspection and or lodging a protest. In normal circumstances this involves horses placed first to fifth inclusively and only applies to an incident in the race.

The Rules require the “All Clear” Steward to be positioned on or near the track to receive and inspect the paraded horses.

All Tracks

The procedure adopted at **All Tracks** is as follows –

- 1) The “All Clear” Steward will position himself on the track where the Clerk of Course will lead the parade of placed horses past the “All Clear” Steward.
- 2) The “All Clear” Steward will be positioned so as to allow a driver who wishes to lodge a protest to move his horse out of the parade towards the “All Clear” Steward.
- 3) Any driver wishing to lodge a protest must approach the “All Clear” Steward and make the protest. This must be done as the Clerk of Course leads the placed horses past the “All Clear” Steward.

⁴⁵ 3.27 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

- 4) When making an initial protest, the driver must give brief and clear details of which horse the protest is against, and why the protest is being made.
- 5) If no driver lodges a protest the “All Clear” will be sounded.⁴⁶

3.31 RACE MEETING THUNDERSTORM AND LIGHTNING PROCEDURES

OBJECTIVE: Thunderstorm and lightning activity is a risk that can cause severe injury or death to people and animals participating in racing. Due to the unpredictability of electrical storms the following guidelines have been developed to minimise these risks to industry participants, officials and members of the public.

POLICY: The RWWA Stewards have adopted the following policy and safety procedures relating to the suspension and resumption of industry related activities in the event of a thunderstorm or lightning activity occurring in the vicinity. This policy can be applied to all Racing codes in addition to barrier/public trials and track work activities across Western Australia.

GUIDELINES

1. Prior to the commencement of racing or training activities the Stewards/track officials are to check for any current severe weather warnings and take appropriate action as deemed necessary on the day.
2. In the event of a severe weather warning it is important (where possible) to access up to date information from the Bureau of Meteorology website. This is available at the following internet address: www.bom.gov.au

The following link provides a basic understanding of how to interpret the weather radar imagery: http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/radar/about/radar_images_intro.shtml

This website provides updated weather warnings and the radar imagery section allows for tracking storm cell trajectory. The weather radar imagery cannot be relied upon exclusively to detect thunderstorm and lightning activity. It is important to note that the weather radar reflects off rainfall and ice within, and falling from clouds. It does not indicate the presence of lightning, as lightning can be produced where no rainfall is evident.

3. The Bureau of Meteorology (Information officer) can also be contacted for updated information and advice on (08) 9263 2222. Please note that this telephone service is only available on weekdays during standard business hours.

RACE DAY PROCEDURES

4. The most practical technique (which should be used in conjunction with the other methods or alone if necessary) is to apply the 30/30 “Flash to Bang” rule. The 30/30 rule relates to the duration between the flash of lightning and clap of thunder. This rule is based on the fact that light travels faster than sound, and given that sound travels at a speed of around one (1) km every three (3) seconds, the time that elapses between the flash of lightning and associated clap of thunder can be divided by three (3) to give a measure of how far away the storm is in kilometres.

⁴⁶ 3.28 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

5. When weather warnings are in-place and/ or storm activity is detected a designated “Weather Watcher” will be appointed by the Steward/Track official in charge to monitor storm activity, record information from the Bureau of Meteorology website and document details when applying the 30/30 rule.
6. For the purpose of this policy when the “Flash to Bang” count approaches thirty (30) seconds the storm activity has breached the ten (10) km safety zone and further action must then be taken.

SUSPENSION OF ACTIVITY

1. When it has been determined that lightning and thunder is within the ten (10km) safety zone of the venue, racing activities will be suspended.
2. An oncourse announcement should be made to ensure all persons present at the racecourse seek shelter and arrangements made to secure horses/greyhounds in the stalls/kennels. Refer to the attached Race Day Emergency Announcement Script as required.
3. In the event of a race meeting being delayed as a result of the suspension of activity, the Stewards will immediately notify the TAB and Race Club Secretary/Manager of this decision. The Steward in Charge will liaise with the “Weather Watcher” and monitor the situation and keep the relevant parties informed of the developments.

RESUMPTION OF ACTIVITY

1. The second part of the 30/30 rule provides the criteria for the resumption of activity. As trailing storm clouds still carry a lingering charge, activity should not resume until thirty (30) minutes after the final recorded lightning and thunder activity within the ten (10km) safety range. It is important to emphasise that “blue skies and lack of rainfall” are not adequate reasons to resume activities early and the 30/30 rule must be followed.

RECORD OF DECISION MAKING PROCESS

In the event that an activity is suspended or delayed it is important to document the reasons for these decisions. The attached form should be completed outlining this process. Details around communications that occur on the day between the Stewards and key stakeholders including the race club manager, on-course medical personnel and industry participants should be recorded on the attached form.

Publish Date – June 2018

THUNDERSTORM OR LIGHTNING ACTIVITY REPORT

Date	
Venue Name	
Racing Code	
Steward / Club Official in Charge	
Designated “Weather Watcher”	

Time	Action Taken	Supporting reasons i.e. 30/30 count or severe weather warning issued by the Bureau of Meteorology

“Ladies and gentlemen, your attention please. Club officials have investigated and determined that the emergency situation was a false alarm and racing can resume at the discretion of the stewards. We appreciate your patience and hope you enjoy the remaining races. Thank you” (Announce twice)

Announcement for Evacuation (Fire, Gas Leak, Structural Collapse)

“Ladies and gentlemen, your attention please. Club officials have investigated and have confirmed that an emergency situation exists and we require everyone to calmly evacuate to the nearest muster point. Evacuation wardens are positioned at strategic points to provide further information and direction to the nearest muster point. Please follow instructions provided to you by the evacuation team and if assistance is required please notify your nearest warden as soon as possible. Thank you” (Announce twice)

Announcement for Inclement Weather - Thunderstorms/ Lightning)

“Ladies and gentlemen, your attention please. Due to inclement weather conditions including lightning strikes in the area we require everyone to calmly move indoors or inside vehicles as quickly as possible. The stewards have postponed racing until the storm cell passes well beyond the racecourse and we will provide further announcements as the situation develops. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause and we appreciate your patience. Thank you.” (Announce twice)

Announcement for When Evacuation is Not Required

“Ladies and gentlemen, your attention please. Club officials have responded accordingly bringing the emergency situation under control and as a result an evacuation is not required. We appreciate your patience and apologise for any inconvenience this situation may have caused. Thank you.” (Announce twice)

Announcing the ‘All Clear’ and Return to Racing

“Ladies and gentlemen, your attention please. Emergency services personnel and club officials have brought the emergency situation under control and it is now safe to return to normal operations and for racing to resume. We thank you for your cooperation during the evacuation exercise and we apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused.” (Announce twice)

Announcing the ‘All Clear’ and the Abandonment of Racing

“Ladies and gentlemen, your attention please. Emergency services personnel and club officials have brought the emergency situation under control however it has been deemed by the stewards that it is too unsafe to continue racing and the remaining race(s) will be abandoned. We apologise for this development and any inconvenience this may cause and hope you can return for our next race meeting. Thank you” (Announce twice)

Please note – RWVA Stewards, club officials and staff and the race caller have the discretion to change the wording of announcements to suit the specific situation on the day. Each situation may require a slightly different announcement so the race caller should not make any announcements without first consulting with the Stewards and race club manager / secretary.⁴⁷

3.32 MEDICAL SERVICES PROVISIONS

The following guidelines shall be observed in relation to the attendance of an ambulance at a meeting or official trial.

1. Upon arrival at the course at least a half-hour before the scheduled start time of the first race or trial, the ambulance officers shall report their attendance to the Secretary of the Club and collect a race book and two-way radio.

⁴⁷ 3.31 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021

2. The radio shall be tested (Channel 4) to ensure contact is established with the Steward in Charge of the meeting.
3. The ambulance officers shall remain in the ambulance during the running of each race or trial.
4. In the event of the ambulance officers being required to attend an injured driver, the Steward in Charge will issue instructions to the ambulance officers by two-way radio. Unless so instructed, the ambulance shall not be taken onto the track whilst a race is in progress.
5. Where the ambulance must leave the course; No race or trial shall be conducted until the ambulance returns or a replacement ambulance is available.
6. Race Clubs will be required to ensure that two Ambulance Officers and a fully equipped ambulance capable of patient transport is present at each race meeting. Race Clubs that have access to local paramedics will be expected to engage this level of medical service provision (at least one paramedic and one ambulance officer) through the local St John Ambulance Sub-Centre or via a private contractor.
7. Clubs that do not have access to local paramedics will require the Ambulance Officers to be at least Emergency Medical Technicians.
8. The onus under (sub-clause 6-7) rests entirely with the Club and it will be a condition of a race club's licence issued by RWWA that the above arrangements are in place.
9. The Club shall include the qualifications of the ambulance officers in the pre-meeting track report for each meeting.
10. Accordingly, all race clubs must ensure such criteria are met when arranging medical personnel at race meetings and confirmed with the attending Stewards immediately upon their arrival on-course.
11. In the event of any of the above criteria not being in place, Stewards will have no other option but to cancel the meeting and therefore strict adherence is required.
12. RWWA Stewards will verify the provision of the above before the commencement of any race meeting.

Effective Date 1 March 2023

4. TRIALS/TRACKWORK

4.1 OFFICIAL TRIALS

General requirements

A RWWA Official Trial Supervisor or RWWA Steward must be present for all Official Trials.

An Ambulance and Clerk of the Course (Catcher) must be present for all Official Trials.

A registered Veterinarian must be present on course for the duration of all Official Trials.

Drivers are required to wear full race attire including approved vests and helmets, registered colours and white driving pants.

Trial Supervisors must submit trial results the following business day and they must be accurate and complete. Supervisors must sign off that trials have been conducted in accordance with this policy.

Incidents occurring at Official Trials must be reported in accordance with the "RWWA Critical Incident Response Protocols".

Eligibility to trial

A horse is not eligible to trial unless it is registered, been in the care of a licenced trainer for at least the previous 28 days and a stable return has been lodged.

A horse is not eligible to trial if it is currently under a stand-down, such as for a veterinary certificate.

A horse must have attained the age of two years old and be named to be eligible to compete in a Qualifying or Official Trial.

All horses competing in official trials must have their freeze brand checked against their Registration Certificate or official records of RWWA.

Any horse whose identification cannot be established will be withdrawn from the trial.

Nomination for trials

A late nomination for trials may be accepted for a horse barred from racing after the deadline for the nominations for the trials has passed provided the horse is presented for inspection to the Stewards/Trial Supervisor no later than 30 minutes prior to the first trial and the horses' Registration Certificate is provided.

In order to qualify or re-qualify,

2. A minimum of four horses must contest the trial, unless otherwise approved by the Stewards.
3. In a mobile qualifying trial, a horse must score up in its correct gait and/or without causing interference to other horses, be in its correct barrier positions and within one metre of the mobile barrier by the candy pole and the start. The horse must then complete the trial in a competitive manner running the qualifying times below, displaying satisfactory manners.
4. In a standing start qualifying trial, a horse must not delay the start through intractability and leave the barrier at the correct gait. The horse must then complete the trial in a competitive manner running the qualifying times below, displaying satisfactory manners.
5. When a horse is trialling to qualify or re-qualify and breaks gait through waywardness, displays unsatisfactory barrier manners and/or fails to run a mile rate within the qualifying time, it shall not be qualified or re-qualified.
6. If a horse has previously qualified in a mobile trial, it may qualify for standing start races by performing a satisfactory 'jump-out'. (A 'jump-out' means a demonstration of satisfactory barrier manners by the horse and for it to be placed under pressure and maintain its gait for a minimum of 200 metres after the start)
7. Any horse barred from racing until it completes a number of satisfactory trials shall not be trialled on the day the bar is imposed or trialled twice on the same day, for the purpose of having the bar removed. Only the horse's first trial on any day shall be counted as one official trial toward the bar being removed. Where a horse is barred to more than one satisfactory trial, the satisfactory trials must be completed consecutively before the bar will be removed.
8. On tracks where there are two (2) rows of runners in an Official Trial, horses that are qualifying or re-qualifying should start from the front row.
9. The following minimum mile rates for each individual horse will be observed in order to qualify or re-qualify in official trials. Trial Supervisors may vary the qualifying time to accommodate adverse track or weather conditions.

Age	Gait	Start	Group A	Group B	Group C
2YO	Pacer	Stand	2:08	2:08	2:10
2YO	Pacer	Mobile	2:05	2:06	2:08
3YO+	Pacer	Stand	2:06	2:07	2:08
3YO+	Pacer	Mobile	2:04	2:05	2:06
2YO	Trotter	Stand	2:12	2:14	2:16
2YO	Trotter	Mobile	2:10	2:12	2:14
3YO+	Trotter	Stand	2:08	2:10	2:12
3YO+	Trotter	Mobile	2:07	2:08	2:10

Group A – Gloucester Park, Pinjarra, Bunbury

Group B – Albany, Bridgetown, Byford, Central Wheatbelt, Narrogin, Wagin, Wanneroo, Northam

Group C – Busselton, Collie, Williams. ⁴⁸

Re-included in barrier draw

To be re-included in the barrier draw a horse shall:

1. Complete the required number of consecutive satisfactory race or trial starts from the mobile barrier. For a start to be considered satisfactory the horses must score up in its correct gait, without causing interference to other horses, be in its correct barrier position and within one metre of the mobile barrier by the candy pole and the start. The horse must then leave the barrier satisfactorily and be placed under pressure for at least 200 metres after the start.
2. Complete the required number of consecutive race or trial starts in standing start events from a barrier position which requires the horse to be facing the barrier strand. For a start to be considered satisfactory a horse must not delay the start through intractability and leave the barrier at the correct gait and remain in that gait for at least 200 metres after the start.
3. When eligible for re-inclusion in the barrier draw, the trainer must make application to the RWWA Stewards for the ODM or ODS to be removed.⁶⁸

4.2 TRACKWORK IN THE DARK

Any licensee who is to conduct training during darkness must:

1. Inspect the track before training to ensure awareness of possible obstacles (eg. Cones, sticks, etc)
2. Whilst driving a horse during darkness wear an approved coloured high visibility vest.
3. Ensure that whilst being driven during darkness a horse has an approved lighting set fitted which comprises a front facing white constant light and a red flashing light displayed at the rear of the sulky.
4. Conduct all training during darkness in an anti-clockwise direction.

The provisions of this Policy do not apply where the Stewards have ruled that sufficient artificial lighting exists.⁴⁹

⁴⁸ 4.1 Amended 1 October 2022.

⁴⁹ 4.2 Continuation of current policy as of July 2021