

LOCAL RULES OF HARNESS RACING NSW EFFECTIVE 1 SEPTEMBER 2012 AND UPDATED 1 MAY 2016

Definitions

“AHRR” means Australian Harness Racing Rule; and “NSWLR” means Local Rule of Harness Racing New South Wales including the Rules of Betting:

Application

NSWLR 1 The Australian Harness Racing Rules and the Local Rules of Harness Racing New South Wales (including the Rules of Betting) shall be read, interpreted and construed together and as so combined shall be and be known as “The Rules of Harness Racing New South Wales” and such rules apply to the administration, supervision and control of Harness racing throughout New South Wales.

NSWLR 1A Any person who takes part in any matter coming within the Rules of Harness Racing New South Wales shall be held thereby to consent to be bound by them.

STEWARDS

Power to enter premises

NSWLR 15 (1) Without limiting AHRR 15, the Stewards have the power at any time to enter upon the premises occupied by or under the control of a licensed person and used in any manner in relation to any license (hereinafter referred to as the premises) to:

- (a) Inspect and search premises.
- (b) Examine anything on the premises and also search any licensed person thereon.
- (c) Take extracts from or make copies of, or download or print out, any documents found in the course of the inspection.
- (d) Photograph or film anything on the premises.
- (e) Secure against interference anything that cannot be conveniently removed from the premises.
- (f) Require any person who is on the premises to:
 - (i) State his or her full name and address.
 - (ii) Answer (orally or in writing) questions put to them that are relevant to the investigation.
 - (iii) Give any information in the person’s possession or control that is relevant to the inspection.
 - (iv) Operate equipment or facilities on the premises for inspection purposes.

- (v) Give any translation, code, password or other information necessary to gain access to or interpret and understand any document or information located or obtained by the Stewards in the course of the inspection relevant to the investigation.
 - (vi) Give other assistance that the Stewards reasonably require to carry out the inspection.
- (2) A Steward who enters and remains upon land or premises under this rule, shall not thereby commit a trespass thereon and no action shall be brought or maintained against the Steward or Controlling Body for any damages or relief in respect of such entry or remainder on the premises.
- (3) For the purposes of this rule premises include land, buildings or any fixed or movable structure including any vehicle.
- (4) A person who fails to comply with any part of this rule is guilty of an offence.

MEETINGS AND RACES

Stable returns

NSWLR25 (1) The trainer of a horse must within 48 hours of its entering or leaving his stable lodge a stable return containing such information as is required by the Controlling Body; provided that if such horse has been or is to be nominated for a race such stable return must be lodged immediately.

- (2) The Stewards may penalise any person who fails to lodge such stable return and/or amendments thereto including gear changes, movement of horses and other information as require and entry of such horse for any race may be rejected or cancelled.
- (3) All stable returns so lodged are subject to the approval of the Controlling Body who may at any time require the trainer to satisfy them that all of the information so contained is true and correct.

Medical matters

NSWLR46 (1) Further to AHRR 46, the Stewards may at any time require any licensed driver, or any person granted permission to drive in races or track work, to undergo a physical and/or medical assessment at centres specifically authorised by the controlling body for such purpose.

- (2) If in the opinion of the Stewards any such assessment is unsatisfactory, insofar as driving in a race or track work is concerned, they may suspend the licence or permit of such driver or person
- (3) Any driver or person who fails or refuses to submit to any such fitness or medical assessment procedure when required to do so may be penalised by the Stewards.

Judging

NSWLR49 Further to the provisions of AHRR 49, whether prior or subsequent to the declaration of all clear, if the Stewards are satisfied on the evidence of the available prints or images that the judge has made a mistake in the determination of the finishing order of a race, the Stewards may correct such mistake and alter the places accordingly. No alterations to the judges' places after correct weight will have any effect on previous orders given by the Stewards as to the payment of bets.

LICENCES

Trainers

NSWLR90 A (1) A trainer is at all times responsible for the administration and conduct of his stables.

- (2) A trainer is at all times responsible for the care, control and supervision of the horses in his stables.
- (3) If a trainer is to be absent from his or her stables, for a period longer than 48 hours, he or she must, with the Stewards permission and approval, depute a licensed or registered person to be in charge of such stables during his or her absence.
- (4) Should a trainer be unable to attend a race meeting where any horse trained by him is engaged he shall nominate his licensed stable representative or another licensed trainer to be responsible for such horse at the meeting. No later than one (1) hour before the advertised starting time of any relevant race he shall advise the Stewards in writing of the person nominated who must consent in writing to be so nominated. Such nomination may not be further delegated.
- (5) Such deputation referred to in (2) and (3) does not relieve the trainer in any way from his or her responsibilities for the care, control and supervision of his or her horses and the conduct of his or her stables.
- (6) The person to whom responsibility is delegated does not have the authority to further delegate this responsibility.

Location of horse

NSWLR90 C (1) A trainer shall not, without having made written application and obtained the consent of the Stewards, stable any horse trained by him in any location other than his registered stable address as notified on his current licence renewal or application form.

- (2) Any person found in breach of this rule may be penalised and the nomination of the horse concerned may be refused or after acceptance be rejected and the horse withdrawn from any race.

HORSES

Registration

Trainer to identify horse

NSWLR96 A Trainer shall, before commencing to race a horse;

- (1) take possession of its Registration Certificate;
- (2) inspect the horse and, by reference to its Registration Certificate, ensure that the horse is the same as the horse referred to in the Registration Certificate;
- (3) report to HRNSW any doubt as to the identity of the horse; and
- (4) in the case of an un-named horse a Trainer shall take whatever steps are necessary to satisfy himself of the identity of the horse.

Transfer from disqualified trainer

NSWLR120 A (1) Where a trainer has been disqualified but continues to train on the basis of a stay of proceedings granted by an appeal body, the trainer shall not:

- (2) Transfer any horses into the care of another trainer other than with the prior written approval of the controlling body; or
- (3) Transfer any ownership interest in a horse other than with the prior written approval of the controlling body

DRIVERS

Driver Mentoring Panel

NSWLR153 (1) The Controlling Body may appoint a Mentor or Mentoring Panel for the purpose of assisting in the mentoring and provision of remedial training for Drivers.

- (2) A Driver may at any time be referred by the Controlling Body or the Stewards to a Mentor or Mentoring Panel for such mentoring or remedial training as they see fit.
- (3) The Stewards may penalise any driver so referred who fails or refuses to attend when directed or fails or refuses to comply with or to fulfil any reasonable direction of the Mentor or Mentoring Panel.
- (4) The Stewards may suspend or limit in any way a driver's permissions to drive in races if they find any of his driving techniques, methods or practices may be a hazard to him or other drivers, or may be contrary to the interests of horse welfare or may involve a breach of the Rules.

INQUIRIES AND INVESTIGATIONS

Conduct and scope

NSWLR181 (1) For the purposes of this rule, a reference to HRNSW includes a reference to a person (or group of persons, such as the Stewards) authorised by HRNSW (whether under these Rules or otherwise) to conduct any interview, investigation, inquiry or hearing.

- (2) Any interview, inquiry or hearing conducted by HRNSW may be recorded by or on behalf of HRNSW using an audio and/or visual recording device and/or by the taking of a transcript or handwritten or typed notes.
- (3) Any recording, notes or transcript made by (or on behalf of) HRNSW shall be available for use as evidence in any subsequent hearing, review or in any related proceedings conducted by HRNSW or otherwise under the Harness Racing Act 2009 (NSW) and Racing Appeals Tribunal Act 1983 (NSW) as in force from time to time. (For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of this rule (3) are subject to any rules (including the rules of evidence) and/or procedural requirements applicable in any subsequent hearing or review).

PROHIBITED SUBSTANCES

NSWLR 188A (2) In addition to AHRR 188A (2) the following substance when present at or above the levels set is deemed a prohibited substance under AHRR 188A(1) (a) & or (b) & or (c):

- (a) Cobalt at a level of 200 micrograms per litre in urine.

- (b) As at the date on which NSWLR188A(2) takes effect , all urine samples taken from a horse prior to that date which have not been adjudicated upon by the Controlling Body shall be dealt with subject to this Rule.

Effective 16 December 2013

Storage of Samples

NSWLR189 (1) The Stewards may direct that samples taken from a horse pursuant to AHRR 15(1) (k) and AHRR 189 be stored, in whole or in part and shall be disposed of only as they direct.

- (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of the rules, the Stewards may direct that a stored sample, in whole or in part, be submitted or resubmitted for any test to determine whether any prohibited substance was at the relevant time present in the system of the horse from which the sample was taken
- (3) For the avoidance of doubt, when a prohibited substance is detected in a stored sample submitted or resubmitted for testing in accordance with subrule (2), the provisions of AHRR 190, AHRR 190A and AHRR 196 shall apply.
- (4) When a prohibited substance is detected in a stored sample submitted or resubmitted for testing in accordance with subrule(2) and that sample was taken from the horse prior or following its running in any race, the provisions of AHRR 195 do not apply, provided that the horse concerned shall be disqualified from any race in which it started on the day the sample was taken.

Holding of Drugs

NSWLR194 (1) If in exercising power under AHRR 15, the Stewards identify and/or take possession of any quantity of a substance or preparation that could give rise to an offence under AHRR 190A if administered to a horse at any time, then any person in possession of such substance shall be guilty of an offence and liable to penalty pursuant to AHRR 256.

- (2) For the purposes of this rule, if any substance or preparation is found at any premises used in relation to the training or racing of horses, then any owner, trainer or person who owns, trains, races, assists in the preparation of a horse or is in charge of horses at those premises is deemed to have the substance in their possession.
- (3) It shall be a defence to a charge under sub-rule (3) for the person in possession of such substance or preparation to prove that the substance or preparation was prescribed to him, for use by him, by a qualified medical practitioner.

GENERAL OFFENCES

Possession

NSWLR 213 (1) A Trainer or Person shall be deemed to have in their possession for the purpose of the Rules any piece of equipment, horse, substance, document, apparatus, computer, mobile telephone, electronic device or thing which is located on their registered training establishment, vehicle, float, stud, stable or artificial breeding station.

- (2) A Trainer or Person shall ensure that they do not have in their possession any piece of equipment, horse, substance, document, apparatus, computer, mobile telephone, electronic device or thing which gives rise to a breach of the Rules.
- (3) A Trainer or Person who fails to comply with sub rules 1 & 2 is guilty of an offence.

- (4) It will not be a defence or excuse to an offence under this Rule or any other Rule that the Trainer or Person did not know of the existence or presence of the relevant piece of equipment, horse, substance, document, apparatus, computer, mobile telephone, electronic device or thing.
- (5) It will not be a defence or excuse to an offence under this Rule or any other Rule that the Trainer or Person had an honest and reasonable mistake of fact about the possession or existence of the relevant equipment, horse, substance, document, apparatus, computer, mobile telephone, electronic device or thing.

Shock Wave

NSWLR 213B (1) Any trainer or person who uses or commissions the use of shock wave therapy to any standardbred racehorse during a racing preparation must advise HRNSW in writing, within 24 hours of treatment, the details of that use including date, name of horse, name of person whom performed the treatment and the condition treated.

- (2) In addition to clause (1), any treatment must also be recorded in the Treatment Log Book pursuant to AHRR 190B.
- (3) Any horse, which starts in a race or trial and is treated with shock wave therapy contrary to AHRR 213B and NSWLR 213B shall be disqualified.
- (4) A trainer whom has a shock wave device on their premises must register such device with HRNSW.
- (5) A trainer or person who fails to comply with any provision of this rule is guilty of an offence.

Nomination

NSWLR216 Further to AHRR 216, a person shall not nominate or declare a horse an acceptor or cause a horse to be nominated or declared an acceptor for a race with the sole purpose of affecting the number of horses available for the race.

Alcohol and related matters

NSWLR252 If:

- (1) An analysis of a sample taken from a driver under these rules indicates the presence of a drug of abuse or alcohol; or
- (2) A driver refuses or fails to provide a sample when directed to do so then the Stewards may forthwith, pending the determination of an inquiry or other proceedings, stand down the driver from driving.
- (3) If a driver is found to have committed an offence under the rules then the driver shall not resume driving until the driver provides a sample when directed by the Stewards to do so which is free from any drug of abuse or alcohol.
- (4) For the purpose of this rule "driver" means a driver who is on any racecourse or on any public or private training track or any public training facility for the purpose of driving a horse in a race or training a horse.
- (5) For the purpose of "analysis of breath" the controlling body may:
 - (i) Use such instrument or apparatus; and
 - (ii) Adopt such procedures as it considers appropriate

PENALTIES

Power to defer penalty

NSWLR256 Notwithstanding the provisions of AHRR 256 (4) the Stewards may have the power to postpone, for a period of no longer than nine (9) days the attachment of any suspension imposed by them upon a driver.

Order for costs after offence proven

NSWLR256 A (1) The Stewards, having determined after an inquiry or investigation to impose a penalty upon a person for a breach of, or offence under, these Rules, may make such order as they think fit as to the payment of costs by that person in part or full of any costs and expenses incurred by the Controlling Body in connection with that inquiry or investigation.

- (2) A costs order made under this Rule is additional to, and does not form part of, any penalty imposed upon the person. However the order as to costs does form part of the decision made by Stewards, and is not intended to be protected from any rights of Appeal the person may have.
- (3) A costs order is payable as a debt to the Controlling Body within 14 days of notification of the quantum of the order, whether orally or in writing, to the person. Failure to comply with the terms of payment, or to enter into a payment arrangement satisfactory to the Controlling Body, may lead to the person being placed on the Unpaid Forfeit List.

Removal of warned off or disqualified person from the racecourse or any place

NSWLR259 (1) The period of disqualification or warning off of any person, who is disqualified or warned off, who contravenes AHRR 259 (1) shall automatically be deemed to recommence as from the most recent date of such contravention and may also be subject to further penalty.

- (2) The provisions of sub-rule (1) shall apply to any person to which AHRR 259 (1) applies, regardless of when such penalty that gives rise to the application of the rule that was imposed.