

2 August 2022

OFFICIAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE NEW ZEALAND RULES OF HARNESS RACING

Under rule 103A of the New Zealand Rules of Harness Racing (the rules), the Board of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated gives notice that it is proposed to amend the rules as follows:

1. Amend Part 17 of the rules by deleting rules 1709 to 1722 and inserting the following new rules:

Horse Care Regulations

- 1709 The Horse Care Regulations made by the Board may include (without limitation);
- (a) Horse care principles that participants must comply with.
 - (b) Duties and responsibilities of the Accountable Person.
 - (c) The issuing of an improvement notice to participants for non-compliance with this part of the rules and the regulations.
 - (d) The issuing of a possession order, the power to review a possession order, and the participants liability for costs associated with a possession order.
 - (e) Any other matter relating to an improvement notice, a possession order, or horse care the Board considers appropriate.

Breaches of the Rules

- 1710 The Board may include a breach of the regulations in the Minor Offence Regulations.

1711 A breach of the rules or regulations that results in a horse suffering unreasonable or unnecessary pain, distress, or injury is declared to be a serious racing offence.

General Provisions

2. Re-number rules 1723 to 1729 as rules 1712 to 1718.
3. Insert rule 1701 a definition for the horse as follows:

horse means a horse to which the rules apply and includes any horse registered or eligible for registration under the rules but does not include a horse whose registration has been refused, a horse that HRNZ has been notified is not to be registered, or a horse deregistered under the rules, unless application is made for re-registration.

Background

The current Horse Care Rules, which are not yet in force, were approved at the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

The changes to the Horse Care Rules provided for in this s103A notice will align the rules with the proposed Horse Care Regulations regarding the issuing of a possession order and an improvement notice, and the definition of “horse”. The current Horse Care Rules for these matters are no longer practical when considering enforcement by the RIB regarding neglected standardbred horses so have been updated following a second round of consultation in July 2022.

It is intended that the updated Horse Care Rules and the Horse Care Regulations will be in force on 1st October 2022.

Proposed Rule Changes to be Considered by the Board

Pursuant to the Rules, notice is given to every Club and Kindred Body that the proposed amendments will be considered by the HRNZ Board on **Wednesday 31st August 2022**.

Industry Consultation

Clubs and Kindred Bodies may make written submissions to the Board as regards the proposed amendments and shall advise the Board if they wish to appear before the Board to make oral submissions on the proposed amendments **by 10.00 am Monday 29th August 2022.**

Submissions should be addressed to:

Chief Executive
Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated
PO Box 459
CHRISTCHURCH 8140
Email: leanne@hrnz.co.nz

Pursuant to the Rules and the provisions of the Racing Industry Act 2020, notice has also been given of these proposed amendments to TAB New Zealand and the Racing Integrity Board. New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing have been notified also.

These amendments if approved by the Board shall come into force on **1st October 2022**. It is intended that the Horse Care Regulations will come into effect on that date also.

Dated at Christchurch this 2nd day of August 2022



Gary Woodham
Chief Executive
Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated