

April 2025

OFFICIAL NOTICE

AMENDMENTS TO HARNESS RACING NEW ZEALAND REGULATIONS

MINOR INFRINGEMENT REGULATIONS – ADDITION OF PENALTY FOR RULE 858(1)(n) DRIVERS TALKING ON THE TRACK

On 22nd April 2025, the HRNZ Board considered and approved the addition of a corresponding penalty provision for rule 858(1)(n) Drivers Talking on the Track within the Minor Infringement Regulations, with effective from 1st May 2025. The addition is set out below:

858(1)(n)	Driver speaking on the track:	
	First breach of the rule	Warning
	Second breach of the rule	\$100
	Third breach of the rule	\$200
	A fourth breach of the rule will be referred to the Adjudicative Committee.	
	If a driver has not breached the rule for 120 days there will be a reset and	
	the next breach of the rule will be treated as a first breach.	

Background

Following the introduction of Rule 858(1)(n) – Drivers Talking on the Track on 1^{st} November 2024 after being passed at the HNZ Annual General Meeting, the Racing Integrity Board recommended that a corresponding penalty provision be added to the Minor Infringement Regulations. This addition will allow for more efficient handling of any breaches by the RIB on race day. This amendment has been reviewed and approved by the Trainers & Drivers' Association.

Since the implementation of this rule, there has been a noticeable improvement in the professional presentation of our industry, reinforcing the importance of upholding high standards of conduct on race day.

This amendment is effective from 1st May 2025.

The full amended Regulations will be available on our website on 1st May 2025.

Brad Steele Chief Executive