



12 December 2025

OFFICIAL NOTICE

AMENDMENT TO HARNESS RACING NEW ZEALAND REGULATIONS PASSING LANES, FALSE RAILS AND HOME STRAIGHT REGULATIONS

On 9 December 2025, the HRNZ Board considered and approved an amendment to the Passing Lanes, False Rails and Home Straight Regulations, effective from 1 January 2026. Background and details follow.

Following recommendation from the Racing Integrity Board (RIB), a review of rule 869(3) was undertaken to clarify the allowances that apply to horses competing in standing start races. It was determined that concessions were not applicable to mobile starts but were required for standing starts and this amendment is made to clarify that position.

Accordingly, clause 3(a) of the Passing Lanes, False Rails and Home Straight Regulations will now read as follows (emphasis added):

3. (a) *Except at the start of a standing start race started in the home straight or after entering the home straight for the last time in a race, no horse may use the expanded inside lane in an attempt to pass any other horse or horses or to improve its position. Any horse which does so may be disqualified or relegated and the driver shall be in breach of rule 869(3).*

This change will take effect from 1 January 2026.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Steele", written in a cursive style.

Brad Steele
Chief Executive