



12 December 2025

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

### AMENDMENT TO HARNES RACING NEW ZEALAND REGULATIONS SAFETY GEAR REGULATIONS

On 9 December 2025, the HRNZ Board considered and approved an amendment to the Safety Gear Regulations, effective immediately. Background and details follow.

Following a recent review by the Racing Integrity Board (RIB), it was determined that whilst the regulations require safety helmets to be worn and properly secured, they do not explicitly state what action must be taken by a driver during a race if a helmet becomes detached or compromised. Given the speed and intensity of harness racing, continuing to compete without proper helmet protection presents an unacceptable safety risk. This amendment seeks to clarify what action must be taken.

Accordingly, on recommendation from the RIB, the following addition is made to the Safety Gear Regulation:

*“Drivers competing in a race must, at the first safe and practical opportunity, withdraw their runner from the event if their safety helmet becomes detached in any way. This requirement is to ensure the safety of all drivers.”*

This amendment will take effect immediately.

The full Safety Gear Regulations are available on the HRNZ website.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Steele", is positioned above the printed name and title.

**Brad Steele**  
Chief Executive