



15 August 2025

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

### AMENDMENTS TO HARNESS RACING NEW ZEALAND REGULATIONS SAFETY NUMBER FOR APPROVED TRACKS – ADDINGTON RACEWAY

On 26 May 2025, the HRNZ Special Committee approved a trial change to the Safety Number for Approved Tracks Regulation at Addington Raceway. This trial was aimed at addressing concerns regarding crowding at the 2600m starting point, which can impact the fairness and efficiency of race starts.

Effective from 1 June 2025, the front line limit for 2600-metre standing start races was reduced from 10 horses to 9, lowering the maximum field size from 16 to 15 horses when starting from a single handicap mark. The overall field limit of 16 horses (from multiple handicap marks) remained unchanged.

#### PERMANENT ADOPTION

Over the course of the trial, feedback from horsemen, the New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club (NZMTC), and other key industry stakeholders has been consistently supportive of the adjusted limit. No significant operational issues have been reported, and the intended benefits - improved start quality and reduced crowding - have been observed.

Accordingly, approved by the HRNZ Special Committee on 13 August 2025, this change will take effective permanently from 18 August 2025, after the trial ends at 11.59pm on 17 August 2025.

The front line limit at the 2600m start will remain at 9 horses, with a maximum field size of 15 horses from one handicap mark. The overall field limit of 16 horses (from multiple handicap marks) remains unchanged.

The full amended Safety Number for Approved Tracks Regulation is attached

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

**Brad Steele**  
Chief Executive