



7 January 2025

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

### AMENDMENT TO HARNESS RACING NEW ZEALAND REGULATIONS SAFETY NUMBER FOR APPROVED TRACKS REGULATION – TAUPO

On 7 January 2026, the HRNZ Special Committee considered and approved an amendment to the Safety Number for Approved Tracks Regulation, effective from 7 January 2026, in relation to Taupo Racecourse. The background and details follow.

#### 1. Additional Standing Start Sprint Distance

- Approval was sought to introduce an 1800m standing start distance at Taupo to complement the existing 1750m mobile and 2600m standing start points. Alternative distances (1950m and 2000m) were assessed but deemed unsuitable due to chute limitations and lack of appropriate rail placement. Following review, the proposed 1800m start point:
  - Sits within the home straight passing lane, providing adequate track width
  - Is sufficiently distant from the bend to safely accommodate handicapped runners
  - Is 200m before the Winning Post, aligning with safety and operational standards

Both the HRNZ Track & Venue Inspector and Chief Northern Stipendiary Steward were satisfied the start point is appropriate.

These changes take effect from 7 January 2026.

The full Safety Number for Approved Tracks Regulation is available within the HRNZ Regulations on the website.

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

**Brad Steele**  
Chief Executive