

OFFICIAL NOTICE

REGULATION AMENDMENTS

Effective as of 06 September 2012

The following Regulation amendments were approved at the 29 August 2012 meeting of the Board of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated.

1. MINOR INFRINGEMENT REGULATIONS

At the Annual Meeting of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated held on Saturday 28 July 2012 in Christchurch, approval was for the "Fourth Schedule" of the Minor Infringement System (Rule 1105A) to be removed from the Rules into the Regulations, to become known as the "Minor Infringement Regulations."

In addition, a number of changes to the Fourth Schedule were also approved as follows:

(a) Rule 864(2)(d) Gear incorrectly applied – fine reduced from \$250 to \$100;

And by including the following Rules and corresponding fines:

(b) Regulations Mudguards and Mudsheets not fitted - \$50.00 fine.

(c) Rule 823(3) Horse Movement greater than 14 days not notified - \$50.00 fine.

(d) Rule 823(3) Horse movement greater than 12 weeks not transferred – \$200.00 fine.

A review of the existing fine structure has also been undertaken, resulting in a reduction in fines for the following minor infringements:

(e) Rule 849(2) Incorrect Saddlecloth – fine reduced from \$200 to \$100

(f) Rule 864(2)(b) Faulty Gear – fine reduced from \$200 to \$100

A full copy of the new "**Minor Infringement Regulations**" is attached below.

MINOR INFRINGEMENT REGULATIONS

The following Regulations are made by the Board pursuant to the Rules of Harness Racing.

Following is a schedule of fines to be imposed pursuant to Rule 1105A for agreed breaches of the following Rules:

FOURTH SCHEDULE – Minor Infringement System

	Fine:	
<i>Rule 502(1) Late Trainer Notification</i>	\$50	
<i>Regulations Late Driver Notification</i>	\$50	
<i>Rule 507A Horseman Arriving Late</i>	\$100	
<i>Rule 507B Horseman Leaving the Racecourse</i>	\$100	
<i>Rule 823(3) Horse Movement greater than 14 days not notified</i>	\$50	
<i>Rule 823(3) Horse Movement greater than 12 weeks not transferred</i>	\$200	
<i>Rule 834(2)(a) Late Scratching not denying a horse a start</i>	\$200	
<i>Rule 847(2) Chin Strap Not Fastened in preliminary</i>	\$100	
<i>Rule 847(2) Chin Strap Not Fastened in race</i>	\$200	
<i>Rule 848 Improper Attire</i>	\$50	
<i>Rule 849(2) Incorrect Saddlecloth</i>	\$100	
<i>Rule 858(a) Late into assembly area</i>	\$50	
<i>Rule 858(b) Horse Late onto Track For Race under 10 minutes</i>	\$100	
<i>Rule 858(b) Horse Late onto Track For Race under 5 minutes</i>	\$200	
<i>Rule 859(c) Horseman leaving track with horse without consent</i>	\$200	
<i>Rule 864(2)(b) Faulty Gear</i>	\$100	
<i>Rule 864(2)(d) Gear incorrectly applied</i>	\$100	
<i>Rule 864(2)(e) Failure to Activate Gear - non stake bearing place</i>	\$100	
<i>Rule 864(2)(e) Failure to Activate Gear - stake bearing place</i>	\$200	
<i>Rule 864(3) Failure to Report Gear Malfunction</i>	\$100	
<i>Rule 865 - Late Notification of gear</i>	\$50	
<i>Rule 865 - Horse Presented in Incorrect Gear</i>	\$100	
<i>Regulations Non-warranted Sulky</i>	\$100	
<i>Regulations Mudguards and Mudsheets not fitted</i>	\$50	

2. COLOURS REGULATION

Approval was also given at the Annual Meeting of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated to delete Rules 452-460 and insert new Rules 452 and 453. The purpose of this being to simplify the existing colours rules by leaving items specific to the conduct of the race in the Rules, with other administrative matters moved to new Regulations to be called the "Colours Regulations".

A full copy of the new "**Colours Regulations**" is attached below.

COLOURS REGULATIONS

The following Regulations are made by the Board pursuant to the Rules of Harness Racing.

- (1) Any person may, subject to the provisions of Rules 452, 453 and these Regulations, register his or her racing colours.*
- (2) Any two or more persons may register joint colours and any Syndicate may register colours.*
- (3) Application for registration shall be made to the Chief Executive on the approved form and shall contain such particulars and be subject to such restrictions as the Board prescribes and shall be accompanied by such fee as the Board may from time to time prescribe together with a sample of the colours to be registered.*
- (4) On being satisfied that identical colours are not already registered and that the application is not made by or on behalf of any person whose interest in a horse would prohibit such horse from being entered for any race, the Chief Executive may approve the application for registration of colours.*
- (5) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of Rules 452, 453 and these Regulations, the Board may at its discretion approve the registration of a set of colours in the name of a syndicate manager and authorise their use for any horses raced by any syndicate of which such person is the registered manager or for any such horses as are owned or part-owned by such person.*
- (6) All colours worn shall be of durable silk or satin or of a material approved by the Board and must be kept clean and in sound and proper condition unless a Stipendiary Steward, on account of weather conditions, permits the use of colours of rubber or other waterproof material.*

- (7) *Registration of all colours shall be renewed in the month of August 1995, and in the same month in every succeeding third year thereafter.*
- (8) *The application for renewal shall be in writing addressed to the Chief Executive and shall be accompanied by such fee as the Board may from time to time prescribe.*
- (9) *Where registration is not renewed as aforesaid it shall be deemed to be cancelled and the Colours shall be open to registration, under Rules 452, 453 and these Regulations, by any other person.*
- (10) *So long as any colours continue to be registered, they shall not (save with the consent in writing of the person or persons in whose name they are registered) be taken or used by any other person.*
- (11) *The Board, if satisfied that it is unfair or undesirable that any registered Colours should continue to be so registered, may at any time cancel the registration.*

3. STANDING DOWN OF BREAKING HORSES REGULATION

At the Annual Meeting approval was given to amend Rule 857(3)(j) and (k) by renumbering Rule 857(3)(j) as Rule 857(3)(k) and inserting a new 857(3)(j). Under this new rule a horse that causes a false start in a mobile race will remain in its position for a second attempt. If the horse subsequently errs again and causes a further false start, it will be scratched by the Stipendiary Stewards. This is unlikely to be a regular occurrence and where it does, the horse concerned will be made unruly and possibly stood down by the Stipendiary Stewards.

Drivers will still have the option of requesting the Starter to place their horse in the unruly position after the first false start if they believe it would be unsafe to start in its allotted position.

In discussion with the Racing Integrity Unit (RIU) it was decided that there needed to be further clarification of the interpretation of the new rule so as to ensure understanding i.e. that if horses moved to the unruly at the request of the driver or direction of the starter, such horses will be made unruly for future starts.

Therefore the Board has given approval for a new clause 10. to be added to the "Standing Down of Breaking Horses Regulation" so as to read;

"10. In a mobile start race, any horse which causes a false start and is unable to remain in its allotted barrier position shall be placed on the outside unruly position. Stipendiary Stewards then shall place that horse on the unruly for subsequent mobile races."

4. SAFETY GEAR REGULATION

From time to time, a horseman may attempt to check out with safety gear that has been modified in some way which may render it unfit for purpose, which is a serious health and safety issue. Unless the item is confiscated or satisfactorily repaired, the horseman may be tempted to continue to use the item.

Current practice is that helmets are confiscated if deemed unfit for purpose, in particular following any race accidents, but not vests. Rule 847(1) was amended at the recent Annual Meeting to confirm the Stipendiary Stewards' rights to take such actions in the interests of participants' health and safety.

In addition, vests (and helmets) do appear from time to time with no labelling, in some instances this makes it difficult to determine whether the vest is compliant or not. It is also desirable to have consistent policies in the two horse racing codes around safety gear.

Therefore the Board has given approval for the following clauses to be added to the Safety Gear Regulation;

“A safety vest and helmet must have the manufacturers label attached that states it complies with the relevant approved standard.”

“A driver may not wear or have in their possession a vest or helmet that has been modified in any way.”

5. RACE MEETING FIRST AID AND SAFETY REGULATION

Under the Rule 705 and the Race Meeting First Aid and Safety Regulations it states that an ambulance must be in attendance at race meetings. There have been a small number of occasions where the ambulance has not been on course at the start of the first race or has left the course during a meeting with an injured participant. It has been left to the Stipendiary Stewards to determine whether the race goes ahead or whether the race is delayed until the ambulance arrives on course.

The following Regulation clarifies that a race shall not take place until such time as an ambulance and crew is on course/at the meeting.

The Race Meeting First Aid and Safety Regulations are amended by adding the words “No race shall be started until the ambulance and crew are on course” so as to read;

1. “For totalisator race meetings, every Club, Kindred Body or person shall at each race meeting have in attendance at least two persons trained in ambulance work provided with first aid appliances and shall also have in attendance an ambulance or other paramedic vehicle for the purpose of conveying persons injured at the meeting to the nearest medical centre or hospital.

No race shall be started until the ambulance and crew are on course.

2. Every Club, Kindred Body or person shall at each trial and/or workout have in attendance at least one person trained in first aid with access to first aid appliances.

These are the minimum safety standards and Clubs, Kindred Bodies or individuals can provide a greater level of care if considered appropriate.”

Brigit Hearn
PLANNING AND OPERATION MANAGER