

## QUESTION BANK FOR: TRAINER'S LICENCE APPLICANT

### HORSE HEALTH

**Q. What are the vital signs of the horse?**

A. TPR – Temperature, Pulse (Heart Rate) Respiration (Breathing Rate).

**Q. What is the normal temperature of a healthy horse at rest?**

A. 37.5 - 38.5 degrees C.

**Q. What is the normal heart rate of a healthy horse at rest?**

A. 30 - 40 pulses per minute.

**Q. What factors could affect the heart rate of the horse?**

A. The horse's age, illness, exercise, fitness, environment and time of day.

**Q. How would you take a horse's heart rate?**

- With a stethoscope over the horse's heart (near side of the horse in behind elbow)
- Fingers over the facial artery which runs under the jaw
- Fingers on the foreleg level with the knee joint

**Q. If the time of day affects the heart rate of the horse – what could you do to help ensure you get an accurate heart rate and a good indication of the horse's health status?**

A. Take the horse's heart rate regularly and at the same time each day.

**Q. What is the normal respiration rate of a horse at rest?**

A. 8-16 breaths per minute.

**Q. The mucous membranes should be a moist pink colour - what are the mucous membranes?**

A. The mucous membranes line the body cavities that are exposed to air such as the nostrils, around the eyes and the gums of the horse.

**Q. If the mucous membranes are grey or blue what could this indicate and what should you do?**

A. Grey or blue mucous membranes could indicate severe shock, depression and illness.  
Call a veterinarian immediately.

**Q. What is the minimum amount of water a healthy horse would drink per day?**

A. 20 Litres – If a hot dry day after exercise could be 5 times that.

**Q. How can you tell if a horse is dehydrated?**

A. The skin pinch test is a way of determining / estimating dehydration. Pinch the skin on the horse's neck in front of the shoulder using thumb and forefinger. Let it go. If it snaps back the horse is not dehydrated. If it stays pinched or takes longer than ½ to 1 second to return to its normal position the horse is dehydrated.

**Q. If a horse is dehydrated what can you do to encourage it to drink?**

A. Add sweeteners to the horse's water such as molasses.  
Use additives such as "Recharge" or "Neutradox" to help the body recover.  
Administer electrolytes to feed or water or use paste forms such as "Boost" or "Lyte Now"

**Q. What is colic?**

A. Abdominal pain.

**Q. Name five signs a horse with colic would display?**

- Lack of appetite
- Biting at flanks
- Kicking at the stomach
- Lying down
- Rolling
- Restlessness
- Pawing
- Sweating
- Elevated skin temperature
- Weak uneven pulse
- Abnormal or no gut sounds
- Abnormal manure, or lack of manure

**Q. What should you do if you suspect a horse has colic?**

A. Call a veterinarian immediately.  
If you can, give the veterinarian the horse's TPR. Let them know if it has passed manure or if there are any gut sounds. If the horse is down and rolling, get it up and try to keep it walking.

**Q. Name five poisonous plants/trees to horses?**

A. Ragwort, Hemlock, Macrocarpa, Avocado, Rhododendron, Box (Buxus), Ivy, Oleander.

**Q. What is ring-worm and how would you treat it?**

A. A highly contagious fungal infection showing as a single round crusty scab which grows and increases in number. It can be spread by direct contact with other horses, contaminated rugs, brushes and saddlery. Ringworm can be spread between horses and humans.  
Infected horses should be isolated and treated with strict hygiene measures. The veterinarian will prescribe antibiotics and/or topical fungi washes. All saddlery, stable bedding, rugs and brushes etc should be washed thoroughly with a fungicidal disinfectant such as "Virkon."

**Q. What is greasy/cracked heels and mud fever and how would you treat it?**

A. It is a bacterial infection associated with wet and muddy conditions causing the skin to become inflamed and scaly. A greasy/cracked heel is when the skin between the fetlock and heel becomes red and inflamed, weep and forms a crusty lesion. Mud fever is similar but spreads up the leg matting hair into clumps. The legs swell and become painful.  
To treat, gently bathe to remove scabs, keep legs dry and clean, apply ointments and bandaging may help. In some cases topical treatments and antibiotics from a veterinarian may be required.

**Q. Name three signs a lame horse will display?**

- Horse is not weight bearing on one leg
- Uneven leg movement (head nod for a front leg soreness, hip hike for hind leg)
- Horse's stride may be shortened or lengthened
- May drag toe
- Abnormal hoof placement ie heel first if toe pain, toe first if heel pain. On inside of the foot first if outside hoof pain and vice versa.
- Feel heat in the hoof, coronary band, heels, sole

**Q. What is over reach and how could you rectify the issue?**

A. Over reach is when the toe of the hind foot strikes the heel area of the fore foot and causes injury. It is often caused by incorrect shoeing, horse immaturity, fatigue, or conformation faults. To help rectify apply an antiseptic to the area. Ensure corrective shoeing/trimming. Use bell boots to protect the area.

**Q. How would you identify a foot abscess in a horse, what causes them and how is it treated?**

- Acute lameness
- Heat in the hoof
- Pulse mid pastern
- Can be swelling higher up the leg
- Pus can appear at the coronet

Abscesses can be caused by bacteria getting into the sensitive structures of the foot, such as following a nail prick, seedy toe, or foreign body such as gravel getting into the hoof.

Treat by soaking in warm water with Epsom salts and/or poultice i.e. animal lintex to help draw infection.

Farrier or vet can use a knife to scrape sole to drain abscess. It is very important to keep clean. Antibiotics may need to be administered to treat infection. Check horse's tetanus status.

**Q. What is a curb, how does it occur and how would you treat it?**

A. Swelling approx 10cm below the point of the hock. The curb can be warm and sore in the early stages.

It is when the ligament running down the back of the hock joint becomes enlarged through strain.

This can be caused through poor hock conformation (Sickle hock horses are prone), excessive strain or damage to the area through kicking walls, excessive bucking, jumping. To treat - seek veterinarian advice, control inflammation, and give rest. Once the curb has hardened horse should be sound.

**Q. What is a bowed tendon and how can it be treated?**

A. It is damage/strain to the tendon exceeding its natural ability to stretch and rebound resulting in inflammation of the tendon sheath running down the back of the fore or hind legs between the knee or hock and the fetlock and onto the foot. There can be heat, lameness and swelling and pain.

An ultrasound is needed to diagnose severity. Immediate cold press, seek the advice of a Veterinarian regarding the use of an anti-inflammatory to ease pain, immobilise leg, box rest until sound and controlled exercise afterwards.

**Q. What causes diarrhoea in horses and how would you treat?**

A. Replace lost fluids and electrolytes in the horse by encouraging them to drink. In severe cases vet will need to administer IV fluids. Identify what has made them scour and fix i.e. change in feed, antibiotics, spring grass, worms, bacterial infection.

**Q. How do you minimise and control worm burden?**

- Rotation of worming compounds (Drench families)
- Timing of worming
- Monitoring of egg counts
- Drenching to the weight of the horse, use the correct dose rate
- Pasture/stable management i.e. cross grazing, picking up manure, stocking rate

**Q. How often should you worm your horse?**

A. Every 6-8 weeks

**Q. What is the difference between an Intravenous, Intramuscular, and a subcutaneous injection?**

A. Intravenous is given into the vein, intramuscular is given into the muscle and subcutaneous is under the skin.

**Q. What is strangles?**

A. Strangles is a highly contagious, bacterial respiratory tract infection caused by *Streptococcus equi*.

As a result, the lymph nodes swell, compressing the pharynx, larynx, and trachea, and can cause airway obstruction leading to death, hence the name strangles.

It is highly infectious and can be easily spread through feed buckets, saddlery, brushes, towels etc.

**Q. How would you identify and treat strangles?**

- Reluctance to eat or drink
- Horse is lethargic
- High temperature
- Nasal discharge
- Cough
- Swelling and abscesses under the jaw (which can restrict airways) or side of the head which can burst and show thick yellow pus

To treat, isolate the horse, apply heat to abscess to encourage it to fully develop and treat with antibiotics. Use strong disinfectant “Virkon” to clean areas and gear etc. Consult your Veterinarian regarding a vaccination programme for all horses in the stable.

**Signs of Good and Ill health in horses**

| <b>What to Look For</b>       | <b>Healthy Horse</b>   | <b>Unhealthy Horse</b>  |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Attitude and Behaviour</b> | Bright and Alert<br>Willing to work<br>Ears moving, watching and listening and interacting           | Behaviour out of character<br>Listless and unresponsive, unwilling to work, unresponsive to surroundings        |
| <b>Appetite</b>               | Hungry, eats all feed and drinks adequate amounts of water   | Not interested in food, not cleaning up, dropping food or dribbling, not drinking or drinking excessive amounts |
| <b>Coat &amp; Skin</b>        | Shiny and bright, appropriate for the climate, free of skin conditions                               | Dull, hairy, rough, coarse. External parasites, wounds, fungi or abrasions, sores, bald patches, sweating       |
| <b>Eyes</b>                   | Bright, clear and fully open   | Dull eye, discharge, half shut, eyelashes pointing down   |
| <b>Body Condition</b>         | Round and muscle toned. Ribs can't be seen but can be felt   | Very fat, or skinny with bony points or muscle wasting  |
| <b>Manure</b>                 | Regular approx 8 per day<br>Firm green balls break apart when hit ground. Can vary according to diet | Not passing manure<br>Very loose and bad smell<br>Hard and dark   |
| <b>Urine</b>                  | Clear yellowish colour<br>Should urinate 2-3 times per day   | Difficulty urinating<br>Cloudy or dark or blood in urine, smell, urinating more or less often                   |
| <b>Hooves</b>                 | Dark and shiny and cool to touch<br>Grow 1cm per month. Sole clean and hard                          | Dull, cracked and brittle, slow growth rate, heat, lameness, discharge  |
| <b>Nostrils</b>               | Clear, breathing at rest regular and slow  | Discharge – mucous clear or bloody<br>Breathing fast, laboured, noisy. Coughing or sneezing                     |
| <b>Stance</b>                 | Head up stands square  | Head held low, stands tucked up or stretched out, pawing, resting leg unusually                                 |

## **HORSE NUTRITION**

**Q. Name five nutrients required by the horse?**

A. Carbohydrates, Lipids (fats and oils), Proteins, Water, Vitamins and Minerals.

**Q. What is the main source of carbohydrates for race horses?**

A. Cereal grains such as oats, barley, and maize.

**Q. Why do horses require protein and name three high protein feeds?**

A. Protein is essential for growth, repair and renewal of body tissues including muscle and bones. Good sources of protein are Lucerne, Soya Bean Meal, Sunflower Seeds, Linseed Meal, Peas, good quality pastures.

**Q. Why would you add fats or oils to a horse ration?**

A. To increase the energy density of the ration without adding extra cereal grain to the horse's diet. It can be substituted for cereal grains to give a cooling effect to the ration. There is less heat waste when fats and oils are digested. It also helps improve skin and coat condition.

**Q. Name four factors affecting the intake of water by the horse?**

A. Temperature and environment - they will drink a lot more, up to five times more in hot, dry, humid conditions. Feed the horse is eating - pasture has a higher moisture or water content than grains or hays. Exercise the horse is doing or if the horse is lactating.

**Q. Name four trace minerals required by horses?**

A. Iron, Copper, Cobalt, Zinc, Manganese, Selenium, Iodine.

**Q. Name two minerals required by a horse for bone development and strength?**

A. Calcium and Phosphorus.

**Q. What is the calcium to phosphorus ratio required for horses to ensure good utilisation of the minerals?**

A. 2: 1 Calcium: Phosphorus

**Q. What feeds are high in phosphorus and need to be balanced out to ensure enough calcium is in the diet?**

A. Cereal Grains such as Oats, Barley and Maize.

**Q. Calcium deficiency will cause skeletal problems? True or False**

A. True

**Q. What horse feeds have high calcium content?**

A. Lucerne, High Quality Meadow Hay, Clover Hay and Clover.

**Q. Naturally how long per day would a horse spend grazing?**

A. 18 hours

**Q. Horse diets should be made up from fibre/roughage sources then add cereal feeds? – True or False**

A. True

**Q. Name three roughage/fibre feeds?**

A. Pasture, Oaten Chaff, Lucerne Chaff and Hay, Meadow Hay, Red Clover Hay, Haylage, Chaffhage.

**Q. Over how many days should you make a feed change?**

A. Changes in feeds should occur gradually over seven to ten days.

**Q. Horses intestine are designed to cope with high roughage diets. What is the minimum amount of roughage that should be in a horse's diet?**

A. 25% or 1.5% of its body weight so a 500kg horse needs 7.5kg of roughage in its diet per day.

**Q. How long should you wait to work a horse after it has been fed?**

A. Allow 1 ½ hours after feeding before working.

**Q. How many times a day ideally should a horse be fed and why?**

A. At least 3 – 4 times per day. Horses have small stomachs and are trickle feeders. Their digestive system is designed to be fed little and often.

**Q. Concentrates (grains) should weigh no more than 2.5kg per feed? True or False**

A. True

**Q. What can you do to stop a horse gorging itself on a grain feed?**

A. Bulk the feed out with chaff and/or hay.

Mix feeds thoroughly.

Put large stones in the feed bin so they must shift them around to get the feed.

**Q. Should feed be measured by weight or volume?**

A. Weight

**Q. Should you use the same dipper to measure out feeds each time they are made?**

A. Yes

**Q. Should you clean left over feed out from feeders before tipping new feed in?**

A. Yes – as it may be contaminated with manure which is why it has not been eaten.

**Q. Why is it important to clean feed bins out on a regular basis and prior to a new horse using the stable?**

A. It is important to keep good hygiene practices.

The horse prior may have been sick.

The horse prior may have been on medication which could have a withholding period.

**Q. Prior to being fed to horses, Barley should have what done to it?**

A. It should be heat processed i.e. steam-flaked or boiled to make it digestible for horses.

**Q. What is a textured horse feed?**

A. Commonly known as a "Sweetfeed" it is a combination of grains, pellets, and molasses and/or oils.

**Q. Give an advantage and disadvantage of providing water in either a bucket or automatic drinker?**

A.

|                          | <b>Advantage</b>                                   | <b>Disadvantage</b>   |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| <b>Bucket</b>            | It is easy to determine the amount of water drunk. | Labour intensive – cleaning and refilling.<br>Can be knocked over.                        |
| <b>Automatic Drinker</b> | Easy to operate - horse drinks and it refills.     | Needs regular maintenance and cleaning.<br>No way of determining how much has been drunk. |

**Q. What makes up electrolytes?**

A. Sodium, Chloride and Potassium.

**Q. Why do we need to give horses' electrolytes?**

A. To replace the electrolytes they lose in sweat after exercise or on hot, dry or humid days.

**Q. Issues with a horse's diet can attribute to three major health problems – what are they?**

A. Colic, Tie-Up and Stomach Ulcers.

**Q. What causes stomach ulcers?**

A. Stomach acid splashes on the non-glandular part of the stomach. Has the same acidity as battery acid. Caused by stress, poor diet such as high grain intake with limited roughage, long periods between feeds, travelling/racing on an empty stomach (give a small amount of Lucerne chaff 1 hour prior to travelling, working or racing to line the gut), drugs such as phenylbutazone.

**Q. A horse with stomach ulcers would show what symptoms?**

- Poor appetite
- Weight loss and poor body condition
- Poor hair coat
- Mild colic
- Mental dullness or attitude changes
- Poor performance
- Lying down more than normal
- Teeth grinding

**Q. Studies have shown approximately what percentage of racehorses suffer from ulcers?**

A. 80%

**Q. What can be done to help reduce the likelihood of stomach ulcers?**

A. Ensure regular, spaced out meals, increase access to roughage, try to minimise confinement so allow more time in pasture, try to reduce stress for the horse, feed a small portion of roughage one hour before travelling, working or racing.

**Q. What can be done to reduce dust in hay?**

A. Soak hay for ten minutes, any longer and the soluble minerals and salts from the hay will leach out.

**Q. How should hay be fed out to stabled horses?**

A.

|                               | Advantages  | Disadvantages   |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Hay Rack                      | If hay rack above feeder leaf will fall into feeder.<br>Easy to fill.                                 | Dust from the hay can fall on to the horse while eating.<br>Not a natural position for the horse to be eating at.<br>Need to be at a height to make sure horse can't get a leg caught in them |
| Hay Net                       | Up off the ground so horse cannot trample hay.  | Needs to be well secured so horse cannot pull off wall or get leg caught in it.<br>Up high at unnatural position for eating.  |
| Feeding on Ground             | Head is down to eat in the natural position so less likely to inhale dust.                            | Can trample .<br>Can urinate and manure on hay.   |
| Use feed bin placed on ground | Head is down to eat in the natural position so less likely to inhale dust.<br>Less likely to trample. | Can urinate or manure in feed bin.  |

## **GEAR**

**Q. Explain the purpose of the following items of gear?**

- A. Murphy Blind – To assist with a horse turning its head or steering incorrectly.  
Gaiting Strap – To keep a horse positioned squarely between the shafts.  
Rearing Strap – Used to restrict a horse's ability to rear.  
Cornell Collar – Anti choke gear designed to keep airways open.  
Anti-Choke Device – To restrict a horse's ability to lower its head allowing airway to stay open.  
Nose Flap – To restrict grit hitting a horse's face.  
Neck Strap – To stop reins becoming caught on ends of the sulky.  
Figure 8 – Restricts a horse's ability to pull and keeps its mouth shut.  
Spreaders – Assists a horse to stop it striking its knees.

**Q. What are the basic requirements of a trainer and the gear they use?**

- A. A trainer must ensure that any gear used or to be used in a race is of good quality. They must only be items which have been approved by the HRNZ Board. All gear which is affixed must be done so in a manner which means it cannot come undone or adrift during a race. A list of all approved gear is included in the Regulations on the HRNZ website.

**Q. What must a trainer do regarding the horse's gear prior to it racing?**

- A. Ensure that HRNZ have been notified of all notifiable gear that the horse will be wearing for that start.

**Q. Name all the items of notifiable gear?**

- A. Fixed Deafeners, Removable Deafeners, Blinds, Sliding Blinds, Pacifier, Cornell Collar, Anti Choke Device, Half Hopples, Free Legged pacer, No whip.

**Q. When must this be done?**

- A. By driver notification time.

**Q. How can this be done?**

- A. By signing up for online registration via MyHRNZ on the HRNZ website or Infohorse App on your mobile phone. This allows you to update notifiable gear yourself otherwise you must fax, email or post your notifiable gear form to HRNZ.

**Q. What basic precaution should all trainers take to prevent hopple carriers coming adrift?**

- A. Tape them below the buckle.

**Q. What other basic checks should a trainer do before sending their horse to the track?**

- A. Check tyres are inflated, ensure hopple shortener length is sufficient and check the shoes are in good condition and have not become loose.

**Q. Does a sulky require a current WOF to be used at Workouts?**

- A. Yes – all sulkies must have a current registration and WOF in order to be used at Workouts, Trials and Race meetings.

**Q. What should you do if your sulky is damaged at a Workout, Trial or Race meeting?**

- A. Immediately contact the Stipendiary Steward in charge of the meeting to have a claim form completed. Repairs must be completed by a sulky repairer approved by HRNZ.

**Q. What is the maximum amount payable for a claim against the Sulky Fund?**

- A. \$2,000 for the frame and \$600 per set of wheels.

**Q. Does the Sulky Fund cover your sulky for any damage which occurs at home or travelling to a meeting?**

- A. No.



## **RULES**

**Q. What is required when a horse attends its first official trial?**

A. It must be inspected by a Stipendiary Steward and the trainer must present the horse one hour prior to the first heat with a clipped brand.

**Q. Whose obligation is it to ensure the freeze brand is distinguishable at all times?**

A. The Trainer.

**Q. What must an unqualified 2 year old do prior to racing in a tote event?**

A. Trial to the Stewards satisfaction from the start type they intend to race from.

**Q. Explain the definition of first and second preference horses?**

A. First Preference is a non-winner placed 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or 4<sup>th</sup> in its previous 3 race starts.

Second Preference is having won a non win front race at an official trial since its last race, or having won a non win front official trial after qualifying but before its first race. Where there are less than 5 starters in a non-win front trial, to gain preference the winner must better the qualifying standard for that track, distance and start type. Workout form does not count as preference.

**Q. What is the maximum distance a 2 year old can race over before January 1 and after?**

A. Before – 2400m and after 2700m.

**Q. When must a trainer notification be lodged with Harness Racing New Zealand?**

A. At least 48 hours prior to nominating a horse for a Race meeting.

**Q. How can a trainer notification be lodged?**

A. Online via your MyHRNZ Login or by completing a trainer notification form which must include - Horse's name, Breeding, Age, Sex, Colour, Name of owner(s), Colours it will race in and brand which must be taken from the horse's neck.

**Q. Under the Ratings Handicapping System, what are the lowest starting and highest possible ratings?**

A. Ratings start at MR50 after qualifying with the lowest rating then being 40 and the highest 120.

Refer to – "Ratings System Guiding Principles" on HRNZ website.

**Q. What is the maximum number of Rating points for any race?**

A. 8

**Q. What is the maximum Rating a horse will go to if it wins its first race?**

A. R54

**Q. Can a club transfer a horse between races?**

A. Yes, unless the trainer specifically advises they do not wish this to happen.

**Q. Explain how scratching penalties are applied?**

A. For non-exceptional circumstances scratchings within a six month period, horses will be stood down from all stake bearing events from the date of the meeting from which the horse was scratched for: -

1<sup>st</sup> offence – 5 days.                      2<sup>nd</sup> offence – 14 days.                      3<sup>rd</sup> offence 28 days

If a veterinary certificate is provided, the Stipendiary Stewards have the discretion to vary these penalties if considered appropriate.

- Q. When is a scratching penalty not applied?**
- If there are exceptional circumstances – all penalties are determined by the Stipendiary Stewards.
  - A Veterinary Certificate may be provided to confirm a horse was unfit to race and why it was scratched. The Stipendiary Stewards will have discretion to reduce the sanctions outlined above if considered appropriate.
  - Any horse that is balloted out with right of re-entry and is subsequently scratched prior to the trainer/owner being notified by the club that it has regained the field is exempt.
  - Any horse dually accepted is exempt provided it starts at least once on the day.
  - If the horse has been sold or exported from New Zealand - provided the late scratching did not deny a balloted horse in the same race a start.
- Q. How long before a Race must a trainer have their horses on course?**
- A. One hour before the first race and 90 minutes for every race after that.
- Q. If you will be late arriving for any reason what should you do?**
- A. Phone the Stipendiary Steward in charge of the meeting or the Racing Investigator.
- Q. If a trainer is unable to be on course with their horse what are they required to do?**
- A. Notify the Secretary of the Club who will be in control of their horses for that meeting.
- Q. Whose responsibility it is to ensure staff are licensed?**
- A. The Trainer.
- Q. Should a trainer wish to Pre race warm their horse, who must they notify?**
- A. The Stipendiary Stewards and/or Racecourse Investigator.
- Q. Where does an unruly horse start from?**
- A. Mobile – No closer in than position 5 on the second line.  
 Standing Start – Extreme outside of the track and behind the front lines of horses.  
 Handicapped Standing Start – On the outside of the track and clear of horses on the same handicap.
- Q. What may happen to any horse which misbehaves at the start?**
- A. The Starter may order that horse go to any position but not one which alters its handicap.
- Q. If a horse causes a false start behind the mobile what are the options available to the driver?**
- A. The driver can elect to either try again to start from his correct barrier position or they can go straight to the unruly position.
- Q. If that same horse immediately causes another false start what will happen?**
- A. It will be scratched by the Stewards.
- Q. What is the procedure to be followed if a race is Stopped by the Stipendiary Stewards?**
- A. If the horses have run more than 1000 metres the race will not be re-run on the day of the race meeting due to animal welfare considerations.  
 If the race is stopped within 1000 metres of the start of the race, the Stipendiary Stewards have the discretion to have the race re-run. Prior to this all horses will be checked by the Veterinarian.
- Q. Does the trainer or driver have the option to scratch their horse?**
- A. Yes – Drivers are given the option of having their horse late scratched if they believe it is not in a fit condition to race and its performance would be impaired. Likewise any trainer who does not wish their horse to take part in the re-run should immediately inform a Stipendiary Steward.
- Q. For what reason can Stewards late scratch a horse following a race?**
- A. If that horse was denied a fair start. If the horse refused to score up and took no part in the race.

**Q. What constitutes being denied a fair start?**

A. When a false start should have been declared but was not.

**Mobile –**

A horse starts ahead of the gate

There is interference

A horse has broken equipment

A horse falls before the start

An emergency occurs

A horse is in the wrong position

**Stand**

Interference prior to barrier strands being released

A barrier strand fails to release or interferes with a horse

A Starter's assistant impedes the progress of a horse

**Q. What should you do if you believe you have been denied a fair start?**

A. Immediately approach the Stewards. This must be done prior to the payment of dividends.

**Q. What are the criteria for lodging a protest against another horse?**

A. Firstly, your horse must have finished in the first five placings for you to be eligible to lodge a protest. Secondly you must be able to prove to the JCA that had it not been for the interference you received from the horse you are protesting against you would have beaten that runner home. Your intention to lodge a protest or review the films must be notified to a Stipendiary Steward immediately following the race.

**Q. How long is a horse eligible to break from its gait before facing disqualification?**

A. 150 metres at the start or during the running or 50 metres inside the final 200 metres unless that galloping was caused by interference.

**Q. Define lapped on and where it is applicable in a race?**

A. Lapped on is when a horse is in a break from its gait over the finishing line and another horse is within one length, ie has its nose in line with any part of the galloping horse's body excluding the tail.

**Q. What action is taken if a horse starts on a mark in advance of its proper mark, starts from other than its correct barrier position or in advance of its correct barrier position?**

A. The horse shall be disqualified and deemed to be scratched from the race.

**Q. If anything becomes apparent with a horse that may affect or may have affected its performance in a race what are all licensed people obliged to do?**

A. Notify a Stipendiary Steward as soon as practicable. For example - mare is in season or confirmed to be in foal, horse has missed some work due to a stone bruise etc, horse has been treated for muscle tie up, has undergone a wind operation, horse developed a cold or lameness problem subsequent to racing.

**Q. What other types of Surgeries or Procedures must be notified to HRNZ as soon as practicable?  
(Refer to Notifiable Surgeries or Procedures in the Regulations)**

A. Caslicks in a mare  
Respiratory tract surgery  
Bone fracture surgery  
Surgery on bone cysts  
Surgery on joints  
Surgery or procedure on any tendon or suspensory

**Q. If a mare has been served while in training who are you required to notify?**

A. A Stipendiary Steward with the last date of service.

**Q. A mare that has been served can continue to race for what length of time?**

A. 120 days from last date of service.

**Q. If your horse has been gelded what must you do?**

A. The owner or trainer must notify HRNZ within 5 working days.

**Q. When is a Horse Movement Notification required to be lodged?**

A. If a horse is to be stabled away from their registered stable location for more than 7 consecutive days eg when a North Island horse campaigns in the South Island.

**Q. How can a Horse Movement be notified?**

A. Online via your MyHRNZ login or by completing a Horse Movement Notification form on the HRNZ website and sending to HRNZ.

**Q. How long is a Horse Movement Notification valid for?**

A. Total period away must be less than 12 consecutive weeks. After this permission must be sought from HRNZ for the trainer to operate more than one stable or the horse must be transferred to another trainer's name.

**Q. What date is your licence valid to each season?**

A. 31 July.

**Q. By what date must your licence renewal be lodged and paid for to avoid late penalties?**

A. 30 June.

**Q. How do you apply to renew your licence?**

A. Online via your MyHRNZ login or contact HRNZ to be sent your personalised renewal form.

**Q. What is required before racing a horse in Australia?**

A. A Clearance must be issued by Harness Racing NZ to the Australian State Controlling Body. All NZ Trainers, Drivers and Stablehands must pay for insurance direct to Harness Racing Australia before being able to undertake any harness racing activities there – refer to Australian Insurance form on HRNZ website.

## **JUDICIAL CONTROL AUTHORITY**

**Q. Who are the JCA and what is their function?**

A. JCA stands for Judicial Control Authority. The JCA rule on any matter presented to them by the Stewards, or by any person with their permission. The JCA determine the outcome of protests and charges and can be asked to rule on any race day or non-race day matter associated with the Rules of Harness Racing.

**Q. Explain the Minor Infringement Schedule?**

A. The Minor Infringement Schedule (Fourth Schedule of the Rules of Harness Racing) is designed to avoid lengthy hearings for admitted breaches of minor Rules. Defendants can, if they wish, sign the form and accept the penalty for which they are liable without having to front a Judicial Committee. If a person wishes to dispute the charge they are entitled to appear before the Committee.

**Q. If a trainer is found to have breached a Rule by the JCA and a penalty is imposed what rights do they have following this?**

A. Lodge an appeal against the decision by completing a Notice of Appeal form which can be found on the JCA website ([www.jca.org.nz](http://www.jca.org.nz)).

The form must be accompanied by a \$250 filing fee and forwarded to the Registrar of the Appeals Tribunal at the office of the JCA.

This must be done by 4.00pm on the third working day following the decision being published on the JCA website.

**Q. Can a decision to change the placings in a race as a result of a protest be appealed?**

A. No

## **DRUG TREATMENT**

**Q. What is the fundamental principle behind the practice of swabbing and pre-race blood testing?**

A. To ensure that all trainers present their horses drug free.

**Q. What is a prohibited substance?**

A. Any substance set out in the Prohibited Substance and Practices Regulations;  
The metabolites, artefacts and isomers of prohibited substances;  
Any substance capable of affecting the speed, stamina, courage or conduct of a horse

**Q. Prescribed drugs are commonly used as part of training regimes now. What precautions should a trainer be taking around the use of these drugs?**

A. Ensure these are labelled correctly with the horse's name they were prescribed for, the date they were prescribed, the withholding time for racing and the dosage required. Trainers should also keep a stable record treatment log to monitor the drugs administered to each horse, the date and the amount. These drugs should be stored in a lockable container or cupboard.

**Q. Whose responsibility is it to ensure a horse races drug free?**

A. Always the trainer. Despite seeking advice from professionals it is always the responsibility of the trainer to present a horse drug free to race.

**Q. Describe Out of Competition substances?**

A. Substances which are not to be administered by or in the possession of any trainer (except for some legal reason). These substances can be tested for at any time in Out of Competition Testing.  
(A list can be found in the HRNZ Regulations).

**Q. Name the items which are prohibited from being in your possession on course on race day or in a motor vehicle or float used for the purpose of travelling to a race meeting unless permission has been obtained from a Stipendiary Steward or Racing Investigator?**

A. A prohibited substance  
Gastric tube or nasal gastric tube  
Hypodermic needle, or oral syringe  
Ventilator, nebulizer, atomiser, or face mask

**Q. No person shall administer any substance to a horse entered in a race in the period one clear day before racing. From what time does one clear day prior to racing commence?**

A. Twenty-four-hours before 12.01am on the day the horse is to race and includes the day of racing.  
ie if horse is racing on Friday at 6.15pm no substance or additives should be given after midnight on Wednesday.

**Q. When does the day of racing commence?**

A. At 12.01am on the day on which the horse is to race and concludes half an hour after the last race.

**Q. Does administer include topical creams applied to the horse's skin?**

A. Yes

**Q. Pre-race blood testing is regularly carried out to detect what?**

A. If the horse has a raised total carbon dioxide (TCO<sub>2</sub>) level caused by administration of sodium bicarbonate or other alkalisating agents.

**Q. Name the substances that should never be added to a horse's feed on the day of racing and one clear day prior to racing?**

A. A prohibited substance  
Sodium bicarbonate or other alkalisating agents  
Cobalt