

**17 March 2020**

## **OFFICIAL NOTICE**

### **HRNZ ORDER AND DIRECTION IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

Under clause 14.4.4 of HRNZ's constitution, Harness Racing New Zealand has made an Order and Direction prohibiting public access to race meetings, and taking other temporary steps, in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

These steps are necessary to protect the health and wellbeing of our participants and to ensure that our industry can continue to function in a time of national crisis.

This Order and Direction comes into force with immediate effect and will remain in force until 13 April 2020. The Order and Direction is binding on all clubs, licence holders, owners and other persons to whom the Rules apply.

A copy of the Order and Direction is attached. The key points are:

- ) There will be no general admission to race meetings, trials, or workouts. The only people that can attend race meetings, trials and workouts are:
  - o Licensed drivers engaged to compete at the meeting;
  - o Licensed trainers with horses entered at the meeting;
  - o Licensed stablehands employed by trainers with horses entered at the meeting, if that employee's presence at the course:
    - is essential; and
    - has been notified to the club ahead of the meeting;
  - o Club and racing officials (including starter's assistants, veterinary and medical staff and the Racing Integrity Unit) whose presence at the course is essential for the meeting to proceed;
  - o Members of the Judicial Committee appointed by the Judicial Control Authority;
  - o Broadcasting and other essential staff employed by the Racing Industry Transition Agency; or
  - o Accredited media as approved by HRNZ in writing.
  
- ) Persons with cold or flu symptoms are in all circumstances prohibited from attending race meetings, trials and workouts.

**Peter Jensen**  
**Chief Executive**

**HRNZ ORDER AND DIRECTION  
IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

The Board of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated (HRNZ) gives the following Order and Direction under clause 14.4.4 of the Constitution of HRNZ to all clubs, combination of clubs, owners, and persons licenced under the New Zealand Rules of Harness Racing.

This Order and Direction has immediate effect and remains in force until 13 April 2020 and may be reviewed from time to time.

- 1.0 For the purpose of this Order and Direction a race meeting is in progress from one hour prior to the first race and concludes 30 minutes after the last race.

*Admission to race meetings*

- 2.0 No person shall be admitted to, or present at, a racecourse when a race meeting is in progress, except for:
- 2.1 Licensed drivers engaged to compete at the meeting;
  - 2.2 Licensed trainers with horses entered at the meeting;
  - 2.3 Licensed stablehands employed by trainers with horses entered at the meeting, if that employee's presence at the course:
    - 2.3.1 is essential; and
    - 2.3.2 has been notified to the club ahead of the meeting;
  - 2.4 Club and racing officials (including starter's assistants, veterinary and medical staff and the Racing Integrity Unit) whose presence at the course is essential for the meeting to proceed;

- 2.5 Members of the Judicial Committee appointed by the Judicial Control Authority;
  - 2.6 Broadcasting and other essential staff employed by the Racing Industry Transition Agency;
  - 2.7 Accredited media as approved by HRNZ in writing.
- 3.0 No person, including a person to whom clause 2.0 applies, may be admitted to, or be present at, a racecourse when a race meeting is in progress if:
- 3.1 If they have cold or flu symptoms, including coughing or sneezing, a runny nose, headache, aches or fever; or
  - 3.2 There are reasonable grounds to believe they have not complied with the New Zealand Government's self-isolation requirements.
- If any person who is subject to 3.1 and/or 3.2 has been admitted to, or is present on a racecourse, they shall be removed.
- 4.0 Any person who is present at a racecourse one hour before the first race shall be removed from the racecourse unless they are entitled to be admitted under clause 2.0.

*Trials and workouts*

- 5.0 No person shall be admitted to, or present at, any trials or workouts conducted at any racecourse, except for:
- 5.1 Licensed trainers with a horse or horses participating in the trial or workout, and their essential licensed staff;
  - 5.2 Drivers driving horses in the trial or workout;
  - 5.3 Essential racing officials, club staff and other personnel.

6.0 Clauses 3 and 4 apply with necessary modification to trials and workouts

*Licensed persons and essential personnel welfare*

7.0 Any licensed person or essential personnel who has concerns regarding their health status must contact Darrin Williams, Racing Manager-HRNZ, immediately.

*Club and RIU powers and responsibilities*

8.0 The club must retain a written record of all persons present at a racecourse when a race meeting is in progress for the purpose of ensuring there is traceability of those persons.

9.0 Clubs, Racecourse Inspectors, and Stipendiary Stewards who believe, on reasonable grounds, that a person seeking entry to a racecourse or who is present on a racecourse is a person whose presence on a racecourse is not permitted by this direction or order shall immediately remove that person from the racecourse.

*Dispensation*

10.0 HRNZ may, on the request of a club, vary any of the requirements in this order and direction