

10 August 2016

**CIRCULAR NO 1613**

**To:** The Secretary all Totalisator Clubs and Kindred Bodies

**From:** Darrin Williams, Racing Manager

**Subject:** **CANDY POLE REMIT**

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1. At the recent Harness Racing New Zealand Annual General Meeting, a remit was passed with regard to the placement of a “candy pole” 50m prior to the start point for all mobile starts. This is to ensure that all drivers have their horse on the mobile gate at this point so as not to disadvantage any second line runners.
2. This remit will come into effect as soon as the rule changes are gazetted (likely to be September 2016). As a result, clubs need to address as soon as possible steps to have these poles in place.
3. After looking at this at recent venue inspections and discussing it with some club officials and horsemen, the following was agreed as the best approach:

The candy pole should be placed 50m prior to the start of each mobile distance used. It should be 3 metres high and 250mm in width. The candy pole should be inside the track and away from the running line so that they are not creating an obstacle but are clearly able to be seen by the drivers of horses drawn the widest on the track. An additional pole may be placed on the outside as well if the club wishes. It should be black and yellow ringed stripes. Perhaps yellow tape or paint on a black pipe. Ideally these should be sleeved so they can be taken out if the club wished.

4. For the clubs racing at other venues, these could simply be dug in and heeled in for the day if that is more convenient given the tracks are used for thoroughbred racing. It is not suggested that these should be obstacles.
5. Please ensure that this is conveyed to your Track Manager and where a club races at another venue this is carried out.
6. Should you have any questions relating to this, please contact either:

**John Denton - HRNZ Track and Venue Inspector - 027 245 9167**  
**Darrin Williams - Racing Manager HRNZ - 03 964 1192**

Darrin Williams  
RACING MANAGER